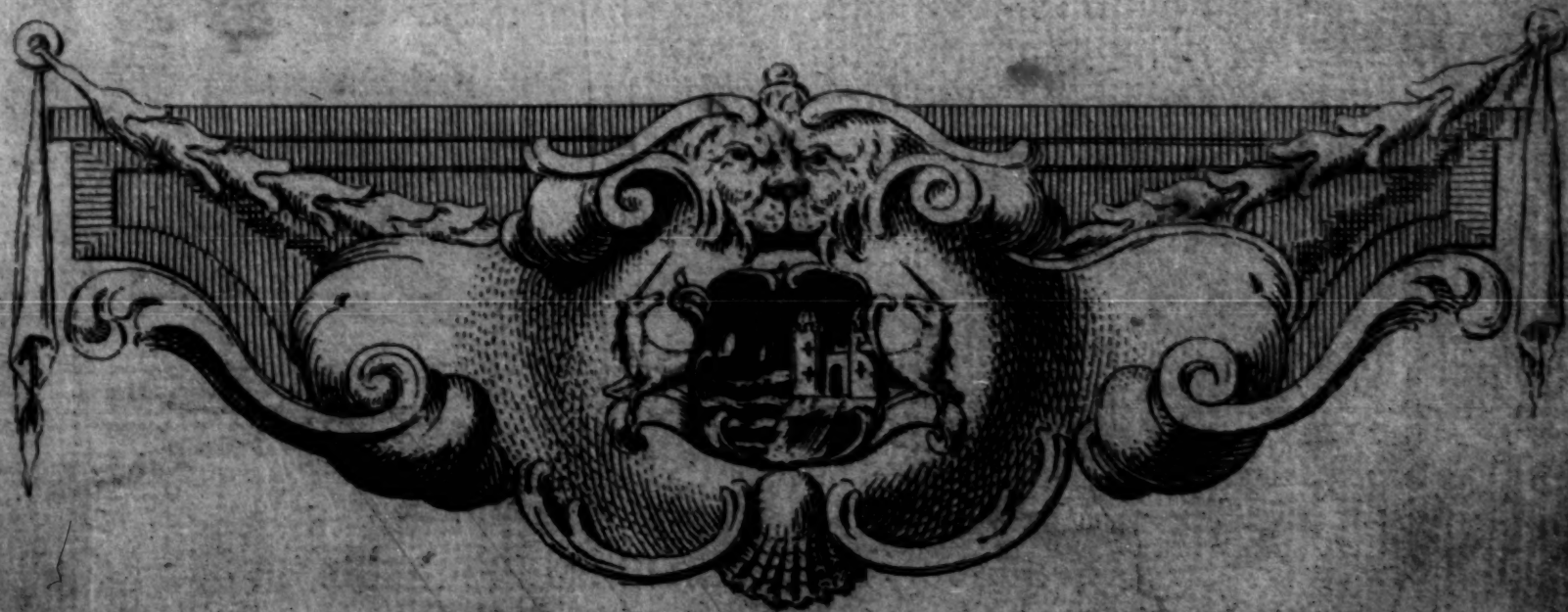


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THE
HISTORY
AND
ANTIQUITIES
OF THE
CITY of BRISTOL;

COMPILED FROM
Original RECORDS and authentic MANUSCRIPTS,
In public Offices or private Hands;
Illustrated with COPPER-PLATE PRINTS.

By WILLIAM BARRETT, SURGEON, F.S.A.



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TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL
LEVI AMES, Esq; Mayor;
The Worshipful the ALDERMEN, and COMMON
COUNCIL of the City of BRISTOL.



GENTLEMEN,

TO you is the HISTORY OF BRISTOL with propriety inscribed, to which you have a natural and peculiar Claim. By public Spirit, Virtue and Loyalty, your predecessors procuring Liberties and ample Privileges by Charters from our Kings and Queens raised this City to an high rank in the nation, and by the same their successors have exalted it to the dignity of being the Second City in the kingdom.

Reformed as it is in its POLICE, enlarged in the number and extent of its Buildings, and increased in its Trade and Opulence, may it long flourish by your vigilant and active Care, by the great Credit and Reputation of its Merchants, and the VIRTUE AND INDUSTRY of the Citizens; and by using the natural local advantages of improving its Port and Harbour to the utmost, may the Honour be yours of compleating its Grandeur, that Ships may resort hither more and more from every Quarter of the Globe, and the Commerce and Prosperity of the City continue to advance to latest posterity.

I have the honour to be,

Worshipful SIRS,

Your most obliged and obedient

Humble Servant,

WRAXAL,
APRIL 15, 1789.

WILLIAM BARRETT.

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL

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The Worshipful the Aldermen, and Common
Council of the City of BOSTON.

GENTLEMEN,

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attributed to which you have a natural and peculiar
claim. By public Spirit, Virtue and Loyalty, your
predecessors procuring Liberties and rights for the
Citizens from our Kings and Queens raised this City to
an high rank in the nation, and by the same their
successors have exalted it to the dignity of being the
Second City in the Kingdom.

Remembered as it is in its Power, enlarged in the
number and extent of its Buildings, and increased in its
Trade and Opulence, may it long flourish by your
vigilant and active Care, by the great Credit and
Reputation of its Merchants, and the Virtue and
Industry of the Citizens; and by using the natural local
advantages of improving its Port and Harbour to the
utmost may the Honour be kept of maintaining its
Character that Ships may resort in great numbers and upon
easy terms to the Council of the City, and the Commerce
and Prosperity of the City continue to advance to last

I am the honor to be,

Respectfully, Sir,

Your most obliged and obedient

Worshipful Servant,

WILLIAM BARRITT

P R E F A C E.


HOW the History of Bristol, so long expected, is at length offered to the public the reader may be curious to know. Twenty years have elapsed since collections for the design were sought for with great assiduity and no small expence, and some progress made in compiling it, and even the copper-plates were engraved for the work in folio; but the author, engaged in a business that commanded all his time and attention, receiving no encouragement to proceed, and finding there was more likelihood for him, "*oleum et operam perdere*," sat down contented with his first loss and wholly desisted from the undertaking, locking up his papers for several years, intending to leave them to one of more leisure and to a time more auspicious and favourable to the undertaking. Retiring from business into the country and often confined by the gout, he thought he should find some amusement in this literary employ, and resumed the long intermitted task, that he might leave it in a less unfinished state to be completed and published hereafter. At this time a worthy Doctor of one of our universities, deservedly esteemed by all for his singular humanity and friendly disposition, visited him and warmly solicited him to proceed with the work and publish it himself in his life-time; for posthumous works were often neglected, seldom executed to the author's mind, and not unfrequently lost. In a letter afterwards he urged the matter with great earnestness, and most generous tender of his friendship, concluding with the following spirited expressions, which he applied to this occasion. "*Hominem te durum et penè crudelem, qui tam insignes libros tam diu teneas. Sine per ora hominum ferantur, &c. Quosque tibi et nobis invidetis? Tibi laudem, nobis maximam voluptatem. Magna etiam longaque expectatio est quam frustrari adhuc et differre non debes. — HABE ANTE OCULOS MORTALITATEM!* Define studia tua infinità istà cunctatione fraudare, quæ cum modum excedat, verendum est, ne inertiae et desidia vel etiam timiditatis nomen accipiat." This added a spur to irresolution, and the "*habe ante oculos mortalitatem*" made an impression irresistible, applied to one in a declining state of health and years. In a word, the work was immediately resumed and prosecuted without intermission, and then offered to the public, who have liberally patronized it, as the list of subscribers will shew, which

which would do honour to any work, and cannot but excite in the author a due sense of gratitude.

Some readers may perhaps be surprized at the length of this History, whilst others may express their wonder at its being comprized in one volume: the former may think it unnecessary to descend to minute particulars, whilst the latter will judge every thing not fully related and every authority not quoted in the original words an omission. — The author has endeavoured to steer a middle course, and will readily give his reasons. Had he been more brief, he could not have given so much information about the religious houses, the castle, and their governors, their antiquities, nor of the manners of those times; nor indeed of their present state. The reader must have contented himself with a superficial view of things, such as his own eyes and observation might have presented him with, in which case he would have turned away displeased at not being informed more than he knew before. On the contrary, if he had been more prolix, and transcribed at length the several Latin deeds of endowment, original authorities, and charters, he must have filled a large folio or two quarto volumes. The learned antiquarian would receive much satisfaction doubtless in perusing the antient deeds and authentic documents in the original; but as all such are long and tedious, if the principal matters contained therein be noticed, the rest would unnecessarily swell the volume, and serve only a certain class of readers: and therefore though the beginning of the original deed is often given, the translation follows in English for the ease and information of the less learned reader; but sometimes where the deed is very important and curious, and not too long, the whole is given. The number of Latin deeds, that might with propriety have found a place here, is such as alone would have filled a volume. They were collected at different times, the greatest number by the late Mr. Alexander Morgan, (whose indefatigable pains and industry in this way for many years, as well as Mr. Haines's, should have their due praise) besides others transcribed from Dugdale, Stevens, and Rymer; but to refer to them and to abridge others was judged to be in general sufficient, though to avoid deforming the page few marginal references are set down, but the great storehouse of TANNER is constantly referred to. The original deeds and copies collected for this History have been procured with so much labour, it would be a great loss to have them dispersed, after the extracts for this work have been made from them; it is intended therefore to lodge them in some public repository, probably the Bristol Library. Whoever considers well the time and trouble employed in making such a collection, will readily agree to the propriety of such a measure.

As

As to those manuscripts of Rowley, now first published; whatever judgment be formed about them, they are here faithfully transcribed, that by producing all the evidence the judicious reader may be enabled the better to form his opinion concerning that controversy.

Before I conclude I must add, that by a manuscript in Corpus Christi college library, Cambridge, CCCC.V. p. 26. entitled "*Constitutiones Villæ Bristolliaë*," (which I did not receive till the last sheet of this work was printed off) it appears, among other curious particulars, how they were enabled to build the old bridge, which I have said "no where appears," see p. 79. "*Petunt burghenses sibi restitui pontem Avenæ, &c.*" i. e. "The burghesses also desire that the bridge of Avon be restored to them and the rents upon the bridge, which bridge they and their ancestors built new from the brink or stream (filo) of the water at their own charges together with the alms of the faithful, and have supported until this day, and are ready perpetually to support it; and in aid of supporting it they have erected certain rents upon the same bridge; and for the Indulgence of those who help, and prohibition of those who would deduct from it, they have a bull of Pope Innocent 3d. the predecessor of Honorius and Gregory. They also desire to be restored to them the rents of a certain house and ground, which they bought at the head of the bridge on the south side, for which they have the charter of the abbot and convent of Keynsham, of whom they hold the said ground; and also have the confirmation of King John concerning the said ground, upon which great part of the said bridge is founded and supported."—They say also, "that out of the profits of the guild merchants and of the town they support eight bridges, the pavement or pitching, five conduits of water, the Key (Kayam) before the ships, and the public officers; and that the murage is expended only in inclosing and fortifying the town and suburb, for which it was granted; and that no waggon, no packhorse, no man, shall unload his burden, without first paying the custom to the prepositor, (*nisi custumetur ad prepositum*,) &c."

Though there is no date to this curious manuscript, it must be about the year 1314, for they desire therein "to choose a mayor and bailiffs whom they know will be more useful and faithful to their Lord the King," who were chosen in that year.

The author having thus endeavoured to fulfil his engagements to the public must now take his leave, requesting the candid reader's favour to excuse all omissions and errors;

Quos aut incuria fudit

Aut humana parum caveat natura.

E R R A T A.

PAGE 18, line 19, for *unlikely* read *unlike* to.

20, l. 17, for *Tacitor* r. *Tacito*.

37, l. 35, for *pono* r. *porro*; for *pacaverat* r. *paraverat*.

68, l. 9, for *in* r. *fi*.

117, l. 25, for *were* r. *was*.

164, l. 27, for 1181 r. 1311.

321, l. 1, dele "*Hinton and*."

381, l. 27, dele mark of reference over "*priory*," and place it over "*founded*," l. 1.

429, note, for *eruptive* r. *eruption on*.

433, l. 20, for *charged* r. *changed*.

556, l. 37, for 1 Sept. r. 1 March.

571, l. 29, for *handards* r. *standards*.



Directions to the Binder where to place the Plates.

1. The large Plan of the City to front the title-page.
2. The Roman Camps to face p. 18.
3. The old Plan of the City to face p. 51.
4. The second Plan of the City to face page 57.
5. The Hotwells to face p. 92.
6. The Cathedral and Crane Views to face p. 87.
7. The View of Vincent's Rock to face p. 94.
8. The Exchange. The print to be cut in the middle.
9. The front to face p. 140, the back to follow it.
10. The Bridge to face p. 96.
11. The old Castle to face p. 196.
12. Ditto to face p. 200.
13. The Cathedral to face p. 246.
14. Abby Gate House to face p. 287.
15. Ichnography of the Cathedral to face p. 292.
16. View of the Cathedral, &c. to face p. 294.
17. Coster's Monument, to face p. 299.
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27. St. Stephen's Church to face p. 510.
28. Merchant's Hall to face p. 516.
29. Redcliff Church to face p. 574.
30. The Fac Simile of Rowley's Manuscript to face p. 637.

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OF BRISTOL IN GENERAL.



CHAP. I.

Of its ORIGIN, NAMES, *and* ANTIQUITY.

THE GREAT JEHOVAH, "who hath made of one blood all nations to dwell upon the earth, and determined the bounds of their habitation," assigned to man at first this one employ, with labour to till the ground in which he was placed. — Thus we find patriarchs and people engaged in agriculture only and the pastoral life, till increasing they went off in tribes to seek more distant habitations; and mutual wants requiring mutual assistance, various occupations became necessary; new countries producing new commodities were inhabited, and a commercial intercourse by barter and exchange was soon established betwixt them.

The borderers on the great rivers and sea coasts employed themselves in fishing, which naturally produced a race of seamen; and probably laid the foundation of sea voyages, to which the islands when peopled seem by situation to have been necessarily addicted.

The island of BRITAIN received its first colony from GAUL; and Cæsar upon his invading it found it full of inhabitants, who made a bold resistance: but as he did not penetrate far into the country, his account must be very imperfect — though the Roman conquest of it afterwards laid the foundation of its civilization. The rough manners of the natives became more polished; their wandering course of life more fixed and settled; camps were laid out and fortresses erected with greater skill; arts and arms began to flourish; their pastoral employment to be neglected for more useful occupations and traffic, which brought together into societies the dispersed inhabitants, and towns arose and cities were built for them to live together united under a civil government.

The first rise of ancient places and the early period in which they became distinguished as Vills, Towns, Burghs, or Cities, it is always difficult with exactness to ascertain : and the greater the antiquity of the place, the more intricate and perplexed must our researches into its original necessarily be. I shall endeavour to trace this city back through the obscurity of remote times, to remove the vague conjectures of some, and adopt the clearest account of it that can be derived from the best authorities and rational investigation.

BRISTOL, though some writers will not allow us to boast of its antiquity, through prejudice or too superficial enquiry, may yet justly lay claim to a very early origin : its natural advantages of situation, its two rivers, its easy communication with the main ocean by its channel, and with the inland parts of England and with Wales by the rivers Avon and Severn, its convenience and security for defence, invited our British ancestors to fix their seat here in the earliest times under the name of *Caër Brito*, or *Briton*, i. e. the *British City*, nigh to and just under the *Roman city*, or station *Abone*, at Clifton and Rownham Hill, at the time of the Romans governing this island, and during their residence in this neighbourhood at their camps there, which appear venerable in their ruins at this day.

Gildas, about the year 580, gives us a very particular account of 28 cities that adorned this nation ; and Nennius, about the year 620, gives us the catalogue of them, and mentions *Caër Brito* as one of the 28, famous in ancient times. Bede, who died 734, aged 59, says in like manner, "*Britannia erat, &c.*" i. e. "*Britain* was famous in ancient times for 28 most noble cities, besides " castles, both furnished with gates and strong bolts, walls, and towers." Henry of Huntingdon, in 1148, copying from Nennius, gives us *Caër Bristow* for *Caër Brito*. — But Mr. Cambden, though he acknowledges its British name *Caër Brito*, yet very contradictorily says, " It rose in the declension of the " Saxon government, since it is not any where taken notice of before the " year of our Lord 1063, when Harold, as Florence of Worcester has it, set " sail from Bristow to invade Wales." That this excellent antiquary was deceived in his opinion, and that Bristol was a very ancient and renowned place contrary to what he has intimated, will be made appear in the progress of this History. The silence of the monkish writers can at best be no proof of its late rise ; for according to the confined mistaken notions that then prevailed, those places alone which could boast the most early establishment of monasteries, the most rich and splendid endowment of religious houses are chiefly celebrated in their writings, and claim particular notice or attention from them ; while places of trade and commerce were little noted or mentioned.

The

The authority of Mr. Cambden has unhappily so influenced succeeding antiquaries, that they seem all to have copied his error and rested in his authority. But his allowing *Caër Brito* in the ancient catalogue of British cities to be *Bristow*, and yet immediately afterwards giving it so late an origin as the very decline of the Saxon government here, shews such oversight and inaccuracy as can seldom be imputed to this great author, whose indefatigable industry and extensive knowledge enabled him to produce such a work as the *BRITANNIA*. The easiest solution to be given of this seeming contradiction in Mr. Cambden is, that he meant it made no very conspicuous figure in the annals of history, rose to no great pitch of honour as a seat of war or port of commerce, (*emerfisse*,) emerged not out of a kind of obscurity in those respects till towards that period; being probably induced to think so by a passage he might have seen in Leland's manuscript, though seldom quoted by him, who (in *Cygn. Cant.*) says, "*Venta Belgarum* (meaning Bristol) was not a large city, it was increased by the SAXONS."

Though the chroniclers make no very early mention of it, being situated out of the road of most of the military operations of those days; yet that it was altogether an unnoticed place both as to Religious and Secular matters cannot be conceived, since Mr. Cambden himself, in his *Somersetshire*, takes notice, that "Jordan, the companion of St. Augustin, had his oratory and burial place here, and his pulpit of stone, said to be in the old hospital of Bartholomew:" But Leland better describes it, "at St. Augustine's Black Channons; extra mœnia, ibique in magna arêâ sacellum, in quo sepultus est S. Jordanus, unus ex discipulis Augustini Anglorum Apostoli;" the monastery itself afterwards erected here being called after the name and dedicated to St. Augustin, probably in commemoration of that event.

Neither can it be supposed with the least shadow of reason, that Harold and Swain were the first of note that ever took shipping here, though none may be mentioned before them in our chronicles, as its port must have been ever so convenient for voyages into Ireland and passage into Wales.—Anderson indeed says, in his *History of Commerce*, printed 1764, vol. 1. p. 19 and 86, "Bristow is reckoned by Gildas among the fortified and eminent cities of Britain so early as the year 430;" (though he has not mentioned the page in Gildas;) "and that it existed as a town or fort in the fifth century, notwithstanding the assertion of Mr. Cambden to the contrary; and again that it was a place of account in the fifth century when the Romans left Britain."

It will be shewn hereafter, that upon the retreat of the Romans, and the subversion of their great cities at *Caërleon* and *Caërwent*, the Britons in great

numbers passing the Severn back again to Bristol, occupied the town here in the room of those destroyed; as this was by nature a securer station, and out of the road of those invasions and tempests that have fallen heavy on other ground, nor subject to sudden surprises, surrounded as it is by the Avon and Frome. — And when afterwards the Saxons came and dispossessed them, these enlarged it, and soon rendered it a most flourishing place and port of trade, to the great decay of Chepstow and other places, which never since have recovered their trade.

But there is an ancient British name which they seem to agree it had at first, *Caër Oder Nante Badon*: Leland says, "Bristol in early ages was probably called the city Odera, and that Nante Badon, i. e. in the vale of Bath, was added to it, because Bath was but eleven miles distant from it;" and then he makes this remark, that "Nante signifies a valley in which a river flows, I should therefore read it Nante Avon from that river, which may be conjectured from a place in Antonines Itinerary, called Abone, or Avone, the name of a city."

The original authority, besides Leland, for *Caër Oder*, is not known: Humphry Lhuyd is cited by Ortelius for it, who says in *Thesaur. Geograph.* 1587, (under *Venta Belgarum*.) "Ptolomæo & Antonino Britanniae Insulae Oppidum, quod Humphridus (scil. Lhuuydus) scribit Britannice Caer Oder yn Nante Badon & Anglice Bristou vocari: Bristollium hoc nominant Juniores Latini. Cambdenus dicit hanc Belgarum Ventam hodiè Winchester vocari: idem Ventam Icenorum Cæster interpretatur. Ventam habet Beda quoque, quam Saxonice Wintancester nominatam scribit. Venta Silurum Antonino Britanniae urbs est, quam Cambdenus & Humphridus Caerwent appellari aiunt."

The city "*Caër Brito, Britodunum, Bristol or Bristold*," says Baxter, p. 187, "was by the Britons called *Caër Oder, Civitas Limitis*, a frontier city;" and *Stol* and *Stow* he makes to be p. 220, "a place, a seat or city." This agrees very well with its situation as a frontier town of defence for the Britons before they were driven into Wales their last refuge, and for the Mercians or West Saxons afterwards.

We need not wonder at our want of an explicit account of the British cities, (which though called British, yet if not Roman, were certainly built by their means, and under their protection;) for Gildas himself acknowledges, "*Libri Britanni combusti fuerunt, &c.*" i. e. the books of the Britons were burnt, "and it came to that pass, through the Roman Governors and Proprætors left here, that whatever Britain had of copper, silver or gold, was marked with the

"the image of Cæsar:" Leland's remark upon which is, *hoc verum videtur*, "this seems to be true."—But whatever credit is given to the names of the British cities mentioned by these early writers, or whether rightly ascribed to certain cities, now flourishing or arising from them or not, yet that their first original was from the Roman stations near to them seems scarce questionable: and most of the British cities of note, if not founded by the Romans, yet afterwards through them soon increased in number and elegance. Some indeed contend that the Britons towns and strongholds at first were nothing but spots of ground surrounded with trees, felled down and secured with a ditch and rampire, according to Cæsar's and Strabo's account, and their temples were groves consecrated by the Druids.

Dr. Stillingfleet observes with great probability indeed, that the twenty-eight British cities mentioned in Nennius and Gildas, are to be understood of the Roman times, and were certainly Roman-British, arising out of their stations or camps in the neighbourhood of such.—And Dr. Stukely in his account of Richard of Cirencester, says, "that Nennius and Gildas name twenty-eight "most famous cities in Britain, which the excellent Archbishop Usher has "commented upon; and though the catalogue is different from Richard's, yet "he is confirmed in calling *Verulam* a municipium, which in Nennius is called "*Caër Municip.*" But it is very clear that the Romans had many cities that might lie out of their general road or tract, unnoticed either by Antonine, Nennius, Gildas or Richard: the last indeed plainly confesses it in cap. 7. de Situ Britanniae.

"*At præter allatas modo Urbes, &c. i. e.* Besides the cities here produced, let "no one hastily believe that the Romans had not more in Britain; for I have "only mentioned the more famous cities: for who can doubt but that these "Lords of the whole earth chose at their will, and claimed to themselves many "other places which they knew convenient for their purposes," adding this remarkable expression, "*plerumque aliàs in castris quæ condiderant ipsi, "degebant;*" that "for the most part they otherwise lived in the camps which "they had founded."

It might indeed be justly observed, that out of twenty-eight flourishing cities, which were famous in this island in the times of the Britons and Romans, it is highly probable that Bristol so happy in its situation by nature, so capable of being made the most defensible place by art, was one of the number.*

It

* Lel. Coll. v. 3. p. 250. "*Civitatum nomina sunt hic obscure & confuse posita; multa vetera pretermissa, recentiora aliquot adscripta:*"—"The names of many old cities are omitted, and some "new ones set down in the catalogue of cities."—It is no wonder then that Bristol should not be more plainly noticed in that confused list.

It may be further urged, that Bristow is but an easy alteration of the name Brito, and that it seems to have suffered this change at the Saxon conquest, as has been the fate of most places when conquered, the name being Saxonized, and afterwards variously modified according to the different manner of spelling and fancy of the chroniclers of early ages; some times preserving somewhat of the original name, at other times transferring it into their language wholly. Caër-Brito signified the painted or embellished city. The Saxons seemed to have regard to the construction of the word as well as the sound of the letters in naming it Bright-Stow, the illustrious city; and received it with little variation of sound of the original word in their own sense to express a town, whose agreeable situation and circumstances, like the Callipolis of the Greeks, and Clarence of the French, give a propriety to the name. Or it may have received the name *Caër-Brito*, the British city, separated as it was from, and so called in distinction to, the Roman city or station Abone near it: *Brit* in the old British signifying also *separated*, and *Britain* the separated place or isle, according to some.—Thus the orthography of the word *Brito* might pass into Brysto, Brystoe, T. Ed. Conf. Bryghsto, * Bristou, Brightstoe, Bricgstowe, and Brigestow, early in the Saxon times: in 1106 Brigston; † in 1140 Bristowe.—By Florence of Worcester, in 1114, it is called Bricstow. By Henry of Huntingdon, 1148, Brigestou. In 1190, in King John's Charter, when Earl of Morton, now extant in Latin in the Chamber of Bristol, it is throughout wrote Bristallum: the Normans wrote it Bristoit—so in the old French deeds: since, by Leland and most of the old manuscripts, Bryghtstowe: but the Saxons, who seem to have imposed this name of Brycghstowe, i. e. a bright, illustrious place, we may reasonably presume found it in that flourishing condition, or the name could have been applied with no sort of propriety, unless we suppose it to be a casual variation of Caër Brito, its old original name. It might indeed have the name of Brigston from the Saxon Brigg, a Bridge, i. e. a town with bridges, ‡ as Bishop Gibson has derived it, which seems well enough calculated for the peninsular situation of the old town, surrounded almost with water, which had great need of, and still hath, of bridges to preserve a communication

* Saxon Chron. p. 193. 230. 241. and in H. 2. time called Bristou in Mag. Rotul. 31. H. 2. Rot. 10. 1191. 7s. 5d. de exitu Bristou molendinorum & Nundinarum.

† In Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 738, where we find the church of St. Peter of Brigston, and the tithe of the rent of Brigston granted to the monastery of Tewkesbury in 1106, in a charter of H. 1. to that house.

‡ That the etymology of the name of Bristol should be a little uncertain, is not to be wondered at, being the case of all cities of antiquity, even of London itself, which is said to be derived from the British Lhong-dinas, i. e. a city of ships.

munication with different places about it; though the great bridge over the Avon till a later date was not in being: **Bricgston quasi locus pontis*, Bridge-Town: in Doomsday-book, and in the ancient charters of H. 2. and H. 3. and in other public acts, where we might expect to find the orthography best preserved, it is most usually styled Bristold, Bristou or Bristol, though the latter seems to have been most commonly used, and is now adopted, the rest among the moderns being deemed quite obsolete.

In a manuscript charter *pene me*, from King Edw. Conf. a. r. 9°. I find it wrote Brystoe: this with the other charters will be inserted hereafter, in the annals for the respective year.

Having thus shewn its several names, and how the original name Caër Brito might probably have been altered at different times, yet has preserved nevertheless the found of the original in some respects, we must not omit the Roman name *Venta Belgarum*, with which it has been thought by some to have been distinguished by that military people. This name is ascribed to it by Leland, Lambard, and some others; and it seems to agree well with Ptolomy's description of such a city lying next under the Dobuni or Gloucestershire: but Mr. Cambden is certainly right in giving to Winchester this name, as the Itinerary of Antonine, confirmed by Richard of Cirencester, plainly and indubitably points out. And in this opinion all at present seem to concur, how widely soever they have differed about placing the Abone of Antonine. But now at length this may with equal truth be ascertained. It was here in the neighbourhood of Bristol the Romans fixed this their station Abone, calling it after the name of the river, on the banks of which they erected it; and it certainly became the parent of the city of Bristol: whether it ever extended its borders afterwards, and took in all the heights adjoining even to Bristol itself, and so included the whole under one name Abone, is difficult now to determine: the city was certainly dependent on, if not immediately connected in one with, the Roman station. But that Abone, the British name of the river, gave name to a city on its banks, is highly probable and very common; the cities often took their names from rivers, and arose as often out of the ruins of ancient encampments and stations of the Romans in their vicinity, or flourished under their protection.

Whether

* *Bricg-stowe*—either Bright-stow or Bridges-stow, so wrote in the Saxon Chronicle, which seems to be a derivation more plausible, and a name it at some time or other more likely had obtained than Burg-stowe, or Borough Town, as some have insinuated.

Whether the city Caër Brîto, Caër Oder Nante Badon, or rather Nante Avon, afterwards by the Saxons called Brightstowe, did not thus take its origin, deserves a particular enquiry.

There certainly was a Roman station a little way down the river from Bristol, and the Roman coins dug up at Clifton and in making the Sea-mill dock, and in plowing the adjacent fields, point out their station here, and are proofs not to be doubted; and it is very extraordinary that neither Cambden, Horfeley, Stukely, nor any antiquary has so much as even thought of this straight and and nearest passage between Bath and Caerwent; but their attachment to Oldbury, as the only Trajectus mentioned in the Itinerary in these parts, certainly diverted their attention from it. And besides the communication of Roman posts and strong holds across the Severn here, particularly to be described hereafter, history will afford us something for confirmation. *Tac. Annal. lib. 12*, says, "Ostorius detrahare arma suspectis, cinctosque castris" "Sabrinam & Antonam fluvios cohibere parat:" i. e. "Ostorius took away their arms from those who were suspected, and restrained those on the rivers Avon and Severn, by surrounding them with camps." Hence it appears, that Ostorius, the better to curb the Britons, posted his forces on the banks of the Antona and Severn;* and having before defeated the Iceni, who not brooking some indignity had taken up arms for the liberties of their country, he afterwards fell upon the Cangi,† and ravaged almost as far as the Irish sea, which could be no other than the sea that beats on the West Country coast. From hence he was called back to repress a sedition of the Brigantes, and then passed into the country of the Silures, where he defeated Caractacus, who had politicly translated the war thither, as a country of difficult access: by this series of action and description of countries which Tacitus gives, it appears that the Cangi bordered near the Severn; that to restrain them Ostorius placed garrisons near the Severn and Antona, which was a river emptying itself into the Severn, and lay equally advantageous for placing his soldiers as the Severn did; which cannot be more truly affirmed of any river than the Bristol Avon: at least the Avon opposite to Caerwent of the Silures across the Severn (where they had such strong camps) could not have been neglected by him in this important service. — There are other Avons indeed, one particularly in Warwickshire, to which some would attribute the name Antona, and some

* Horfeley, p. 36, says "Sabrina doubtless is the Severn. And Antona must also be the "Avon. Some write the ancient name Aufona, and the anonymous Ravennas writes it Abona."

† There is much advanced concerning the Cangi, but nothing satisfactory. It is clear from the story, however, that Ostorius passed through the country of the Cangi, which he had wasted, and after this came near the western coast.

some to the river Nen. And though Mr. Cambden would seem to retract and persuade himself and us, that Ostorius blocked up the Britons betwixt the Warwickshire Avon and the Sabrina; yet it is not probable that he fixt his stations and encampments there, since this river falls into a higher part of the Severn, nor could the Cangi, if of Somersetshire, be affected by them. — But the alliance of the Bristol Avon with the Severn and Irish sea is apparent; and Pliny, (*Nat. Hist. lib. iv. c. 16.*) speaking of Ireland, makes it thirty miles from the Silures, which though a mistake in the calculation does evidence, that the country where the Silures inhabited, on the other side of the Severn, to the West of the Ostium where the Avon discharges, was esteemed in the Roman account as bordering on or descending towards the Irish sea: the little island and village called Scilly in the Bristol Channel points out the seat of the Silures, though others place the Cangi in different parts.

But the name of Cangi seems still to exist in the names of some places in the western parts; Cainsham, Wincaunton, and the Cannington or Canningham marshes, in the Saxon chronicle, which were the marshes of Somersetshire. — Besides those places mentioned by Cambden as preserving in their name the sound of Cangi in Somersetshire, to which the Roman army was led, (*Tacit. l. iv. Ann. Ductus est ad Cangos*) there were many others as Congersbury, Cangfield, Canford, Caundell, &c. And these traces of the Cangi, in the names of towns of Somersetshire and its confines, are more demonstrative of the Cangi's habitation, on considering that there is no town nor parish in Gloucestershire, Devonshire, &c. that hath the syllable Can, or Caun, or Cang, (or Quan, as in Quantock) in it: so that it is highly probable the antient inhabitants of these western parts were called the Cangi, and coins of the Roman Emperors have often been found here, at Conquest, Brent-Knoll, &c. Baxter, Glossar. p. 38, says, *Ceangi vel Somersetæ, &c.* “ the “ Ceangi or those of Somerset were of the Belgæ in the time of Ptolemy, for “ he makes Ilchester and Bath belong to them,” and p. 71, “ the Ceangi were “ not less apt for war than the pastoral life they followed:” we see that the Danmonian Cangi or of Somerset, “ fortem operam in Ostorium Scapulam navavisse,” performed great exploits against Ostorius Scapulæ, and p. 74, “ these Cangi were of that country called, from the Summer-seats of shepherds, “ Somerset, of which Somerton or Summer Town was very old and the chief.”

These military works and dispositions of some great General so nigh Bristol then seem very probably to have been made here by Ostorius, viz. at Clifton; on Leigh down several, especially on the banks of the Avon and Severn; at Cadbury camp, and near Naish; and at Henbury, Almondsbury, Oldbury,
B
Elberton,

Elberton, and Old Abby, on the Gloucestershire side; and lower down in Somersetshire, at Dolbery, where coins have been dug by Mr. Swimmer; at Worle-hill and East Brent, where on Brent-knoll coins of Severus and Trajan and others in an urn have been found. On both sides the river, besides the encampments hereafter described at Rownham-hill and Clifton, in the vicinage of Bristol, many others are to be noted at the lower part of the Avon, particularly at St. George's and Portbury, which in Leland's Itinerary is called Portchester, where on a rising ground are evident traces of a camp; also near Shirehampton, on the other side of the Avon, are aggera still to be seen as you descend the hilly ground, and coins have lately been found in making the new road in Lord Clifford's park, as you go down to Shirehampton, many of which are in my possession. Add to this, such a regular chain of camps and entrenched posts for so many miles in view of the Severn and near to it, are no where else to be met with in the course of that river; which shews the skill and attention of the Roman General to secure these parts, agreeable to what Gildas says, p. 12, f. 16, "*Quia Barbarorum irruptio timebatur, Turres (Castra) per intervalla ad prospectum maris collocant.*" At Snead-park, and at Sea-mills and its neighbourhood, might be the place of their great resort and principal winter station, and in the river Trim the Roman galleys and boats were secured. It is very remarkable, that, allowing Abone of the Itinerary to be situated at or near Bristol, the distances will nearly agree, and the Traiectus between Caerwent and Bath at length more easily be found. And to this may be added, that some rose-up ground, like an old Roman road, crosses Durdham-down, (where a coin of Constantine was lately dug up) looking towards the station here and in a direct line with it, and pointing towards Hanham in the high road to Bristol (near which road an urn of coins was found lately, not a mile and a half from Bristol) and Bath, (*Aquæ Solis* of the Romans).

An incontestable proof of this being a Roman camp nigh Bristol on Clifton hill,* may be brought as well from the ditches and aggera still to be seen, as from Roman coins of Nero, Domitian, Trajan and other Roman Emperors being dug up there, also from a curious Roman urn with two handles, tiles, bricks and broken potsherds being found there, when Sir Wm. Draper levelled the ground near the camp, which is most advantageously situated for the purpose: "All Roman encampments, forts or stations were generally set upon hills," as is well observed by Burton in his Comment on the Itinerary. This camp with others at no great distance and in view was placed on such an high ascent to descry an approaching enemy, as the Romans were in an enemy's

* Coins were found in digging the foundations of the new houses near it, in 1783.

enemy's country ever upon the watch, and at the same time to guard the river, as the river was a guard and secure defence to them.

A particular description of these strong camps near Bristol may be necessary to give the reader some idea of them. And we find they were not unnoticed so early as the year 1480. In a manuscript of Wm. Bottoner in Bennet college library, Cambridge, (lately printed and published by the ingenious Dr. Nasmith 1778,) there is the following description of Clifton rocks, on the summit of which the Roman camp was situated: Thus in English, " At the
 " high rock of Clifton cliff, which begins near the village of Rownham, unto
 " the hermitage and camp on the other side of the waters of Avon and Frome,
 " which high rock begins one mile's space from the town of Bristol; and the
 " said rock continues in its height for a mile long and farther towards Rown-
 " ham road for laying up ships. And the said rock contains in height from
 " the water of the Avon and Frome 60 brachia (fathom) viz. from the firm
 " land to a certain hermitage whose church is founded and dedicated to the
 " honour of St. Vincent, is in height 20 brachia, and from the said hermitage
 " to the bottom of the said river are 40 brachia; and understand, that a bra-
 " chium contains six feet in length.

" The fortified camp upon the height of the ground not distant a quarter of
 " a mile from Clifton cliff is said by vulgar people to be there founded before
 " the time of William the Conqueror by Saracens or Jews by one Ghyft
 " a giant in the land. And that such a fortress was in all likelihood founded
 " there in ancient times, there remains to this day in a great circle a heap of
 " stones, great and small scattered and spread abroad. It is very wonderful
 " to behold these stones globularly lying in such order and in a great circle,
 " for there seems to have been a very strong castrum, which is said to have
 " been for some hundred years past, and is now levelled with the ground.
 " And it therefore is an ornament and honour to my native country Bristol,
 " and to the county of Gloucester, to have or to hear of the foundation of
 " such noble fortresses and camps. I write this among other things for the
 " sake of commemorating this camp or fortress."

By the above extract, incorrect and vague as it may appear to be, however we learn; that the camp or fortress on Clifton rocks did not escape the notice of our ancestors, and though it might be the vulgar opinion, that it was erected before the conquest by Jews or Saracens, yet doubtless the learned of those days certainly knew better, later discoveries have proved it; and as to the height of the rock he seems to have been pretty exact; and it is remarkable, that the place of the hermitage is at this day called Giant's hole, and is about

the distance here set down from the summit of the rock or firm ground. There are still extant the like Roman camps on the opposite side of the river to Clifton, at Rownham-hill, on Leigh down in two places, called Stokeleigh and Bowre-walls now a wood, a deep comb or valley there called Stokeleigh-Slade only separating the two, which have both the advantage of the like lofty situation serving for specula or watch towers, as well as defence and security against the sudden attack of an enemy. The aggera and double ditches are there still to be seen, and they appear magnificent and venerable in their ruins, and a stronger and more defensible situation could no where be chosen. The height of the rocks, the deep intermediate comb, the river below, the deep fofs, and the high banks, shew it to be an advantageous, secure and well chosen station, capable of a good defence, and highly worthy their care and attention. A ford or vadum there over the Avon communicated with both camps on each side of the river. A little lower down the river seems to have been placed the *Castra Hyberna*, being the Roman winter station, abundance of coins having been dug up there in making Sea mill dock in the year 1712. They also met with a fine arched gate way under ground in digging out the dock at its upper part, which seems to have led to some principal part, and the rudera of buildings destroyed, and remains of old foundations have been traced up the adjoining hilly ground next the river side, and were remarked by the ingenious mechanic Mr. Padmore, who conducted the undertaking: and in a field called three acres Roman coins are found at this day, and are turned up there in plowing the fields called Port-buries or Polburies. It is remarkable, that under Kingweston hill, in Laurence-weston near the river was a common field called Abone town as mentioned in the rental of Sir Ralph Sadlier, dated 36 Hen. 8. one acre in Campo Abone town. There have been found a Vespasian of a large size; also coins of Constantine, Constance, Galienus; one of Nero thus incised, *Nero Claud. Cæsar. Aug. Germ. p. m. T R. p. Imp. p. p.* a fine head with a radiated crown; on the reverse *S. C. a Victoria Gradiva*, with a shield in the right hand, inscribed with *S. P. Q. R.* this was picked up by me in a garden adjoining to the dock in 1768, and in a field called the three acres next the Avon I found one of Constance in the year 1775: and in Abel Wantner's manuscript in the Bodleian library it is said "At Pollbury where Trim goeth into the Avon, much coin has been found, conjectured to be the ancient station of the Romans between Bath and Avington, mentioned by Antoninus the Emperor in his journal book." About two miles distant from these and in view of them was another Roman camp, on Blaze-hill near Henbury late the
feat

feat of T. Farr, Esq; who there dug up great quantities of coins in laying the foundation of a castle-like building he erected on its summit, which commands a most enchanting prospect of the country around, of the Severn and the ships at anchor in Kingroad, and of the vessels passing up the river to Bristol. I cannot but acknowledge his great civility and readiness in sending me the collection he had saved out of the whole.

This camp at Henbury, a manor formerly belonging to the Bishop of Worcester, who had a park here, and which was taken from the Bishoprick and granted to Sir Ralph Sadleir 1 Edw. 6, was of large extent, with a high vallum and double fofs, and is about two miles distant from Clifton camp and Sea-mills. Another at Knoll-hill, Almondsbury, and Over, about two miles farther: and at Old Abby a few miles farther was another, where a curious tessellated pavement, in the year 1787, was found in a farmer's yard.

The following coins were found at Henbury, in the year 1708, by Sir Simon Harcourt, from an autograph.

FACE OF OBVERSE.	REVERSE.
<i>Constantinus Magnus.</i>	<i>Romulus & Remus.</i>
<i>Trajan</i> : a very fair medal in copper, of a large size.	A female figure sitting, in her left hand a cornucopia, in the right the rudder of a ship, subscribed S. C.
<i>Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.</i>	A female figure sacrificing on an altar, <i>Salut. Aug. S. C.</i>
<i>Vespasian</i> : several in middle size copper.	A large altar, subscribed <i>Reverentia.</i>
<i>Constantius</i> : very fair in small copper.	A Mars marching, circumscribed <i>Conservatio.</i>
Ditto, small copper.	<i>Felix Temporum reparatio.</i>
Ditto.	A castle, and circumscribed <i>Provident. Aug.</i>
<i>Licinius.</i>	<i>Genio populi Romani.</i>
<i>Geta</i> : small silver.	<i>Inviſtus.</i>
<i>Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.</i>	A funeral pile, S. C.
<i>Adrian</i> : large copper.	A ship with several figures.
<i>Trajan. Faustina.</i>	
<i>Antoninus Pius.</i>	A female figure captive, <i>Britan.</i>
A British gold coin, coined at Malden or Colchester, in Essex; an ear of corn on one side.	A horse, C. A. M. O.
<i>Caligula</i> : large copper.	
<i>Nero</i> : ditto.	<i>Julian,</i>

FACE OF OBVERSE.

Julian, the Apostate.
Domitian: middle size copper.
Nerva.
 Ditto.
Galienus; a radiated crown.
Probus.
D. N. Constans P. f. Aug.

REVERSE.

Votis x. Multis xx.
 Two hands joined, *Exercituum Concordia*.
Fortuna redux.
 A deer, *Cos. Aug.*
Lætitia Aug.
 Drawing a captive out of a den.

The following coins were dug up at Sea-mills, 1712.

<i>Imp. Cæf. Vespasianus, P. f. Aug.</i>	<i>Concordia Militum</i> .
Ditto.	A temple, in the <i>Exergue</i> , <i>Providentia</i> .
<i>Imp. Dioclesianus, P. f. Aug.</i>	A fitting figure.
<i>Imp. Cæf. Domitianus Aug.</i>	A figure holding a flower in her hand.
<i>Imp. Cæf. Antoninus, P. f. Aug.</i>	A figure holding a cornucopia.
<i>D. N. Constantinus, P. f. Aug. p. p.</i>	A Man transfixing a suppliant captive with a dart.

The following were dug at St. Baze-hill, Henbury, 1768.

<i>Imp. Cæsar Domiti. Aug. Germ. Cof. xiii.</i>	<i>Virtuti Augusti. S. C.</i> a soldier holding
<i>Cenf. Perp. p. p.</i> within a laurel crown.	in his right hand a dart, in his left a
	parazonium.
<i>Imp. Cæf. Domit. Aug. Germ. Cof. xi.</i>	A winged female figure, or Victory,
<i>Cenf. Perp. p. p.</i>	holding in her right hand a shield, S. C.
<i>Imp. Cæf. Nerva Trajan Aug. Germ. P. M.</i>	<i>T. R. Pot. Cof. iii. p. p. S. C.</i> a figure
a radiated head.	sitting with a staff, between two cor-
	nucopias.
<i>D. N. Gratianus P. f. Aug.</i> bright silver.	<i>Virtus Romanorum.</i>
<i>Imp. Cæf. Carausius P. M.</i>	<i>Pax Aug.</i> a female figure with an olive
	branch.
<i>Crispina Augusta.</i>	A fitting figure, in her right hand she
	holds a patera to a serpent ascending
	from an altar.
<i>Imp. Cæf. Aleëtus P. f. Aug.</i> a radiated head.	<i>Virtus Augusti. Q. C. Navis.</i>
<i>D. N. Magnentius P. f. Aug.</i> a naked	<i>Salus D. N. Aug. & Cæf.</i> a monogram of
head.	the name of Christ, I. M. B. in a
	cross with Alpha and Omega.
<i>Imp. C. M. Posthumus P. f. Aug.</i>	<i>Victor. Aug.</i>
<i>Imp. Cæf. Posthumus P. f. Aug.</i>	A figure of Æsculapius with a serpent.
	<i>Imp.</i>

FACE OF OBVERSE.

REVERSE.

<i>Imp. Cæf. Vespasian. Aug. Cof. viii. p. p.</i>	<i>S. C.</i> an eagle with his wings expanded fitting on a globe.
<i>Imp. Antonin. Aug. Pius, p. p. Tr. p. p. Cof. iiii.</i> head crowned with laurel.	A standing figure, holds out a patera to a serpent rising from an altar.
<i>Magnentius Nob. Cæf.</i> a naked head.	<i>Victor. D. D. N. N. Aug. & Cæf.</i> two Victories sustaining a globe, on which is <i>Vot. v. Mult x.</i>
<i>Constantius, Carausius</i> : several of them with their inscriptions worn out.	
<i>Valentinianus</i> : several of them.	<i>Securitas Reipublicæ.</i>
<i>Imp. Nerva Cæf. Aug. P. M. T R. P. Cof. iii. p. p.</i>	<i>Fortuna Augusti.</i>
<i>Imp. Claud. August.</i>	
<i>Urbs Roma</i> , a head with a helmet: several of them.	A wolf suckling two infants.
<i>Marcus Aurel. Antonin. Aug.</i>	
<i>Antoninus Aug. Pius, p. p.</i>	
<i>T. R. Pot. Cof. iii. S. C.</i>	A Mars marching.
<i>Constantinus, Gratianus, Constantius</i> , and many other coins of various sizes.	

The following were dug up at Clifton near the camp, in digging the foundation of the houses then built there, in the year 1784.

<i>Dom. Noster Constantius Aug.</i>	<i>Felicitas Reipublicæ</i> , a standing figure holding in her right hand a small figure of Victory, in the left a dart.
<i>D. N. Valentinianus Aug.</i>	
<i>Constantius Aug.</i> small.	<i>Victoria Aug.</i> two winged figures.
<i>Constantius Nobis Cæsar.</i>	<i>Gloria Exercitus</i> : two soldiers with spears and shields; in the middle, two military standards, with a type M. R. B. T.
<i>Dom. Noster Constantius Aug.</i>	An armed figure: — <i>fides Exercitus.</i>
<i>Constantinus Pius Aug.</i>	The Emperor in a chariot drawn with four horses, with inscription, <i>Soli invicto Comiti.</i>

Besides these, a great many more were found by the workmen, and embezzled and sold to private gentlemen. A few Saxon coins, silver, were also discovered, of Æthelred, with *Rex Angl.*; and these with the others are now in my possession.

These

These camps at Henbury, or Blaze-hill, and Almondsbury, look directly towards the greater works of Abone at Rownham and Clifton-hill, and form one grand chain of fortification, with the Severn in its front; and signals of an approaching enemy might be communicated to either from a great distance. Blaze-hill, separated as if by art from the down adjacent called Kingsweston-hill, commands a full prospect of the Avon and Severn, and a distant view of Venta Silurum, Isca or Caerleon, as well as of all the Roman stations nearer at hand, and was the most defensible post next to that at Clifton and Rownham-hills, in the neighbourhood of Bristol, that Ostorius and the Romans had.

Bishop Stillingfleet says, p. 510, that it was the Roman custom to place their garrisons on rivers, as a security of their frontiers against the enemy, which was the occasion of towns being built there, called by them Burgi, i. e. limitum castella, as Veignier observes, "castles on the borders:" so that Bristol seems to have been a burgus on the borders, called by its most ancient name *Caer Oder Nante Badon*, or Avon; a name that has puzzled all antiquaries to account for; and the authority for which is Leland and Lhuyd, though the reason for the name is not mentioned by Camden or them: Amidst this uncertainty, if one might be allowed to guess, the city Oder in the vale of Bath, or on the Avon (the vale river), might not improbably have been written at first the city Oster, and by dropping the Sibilant letter *s*, not unusual among the Britons after the French, the name Oder (from Oster) was by them formed; and so Ostorius, the Roman Proprætor under Claudius, may have dignified our city with his name: and Aust-passage over the Severn is in Doomsday-book called *Austre Clive*, retaining still the name of Ostorius in its sound without the Latin termination; a proof of that General's having acted much in these parts.

The town, as well as the camps near it, could not but come under the Proprætor's government, as it fell thus within his circuit and view, and might with them be included in their station Abone, though assuming afterwards another name: the new modelling it since and the fresh foundations and enlargements have left us few marks of its ancient state, which was so much altered, as was its name afterwards by the Saxons.

But to be a little more particular on these vestiges the Romans have left nigh Bristol, their camps here deserve a description at large.

The Britons no doubt on the first invasion of the Romans did at their leisure and on pressing occasions prepare many strong places of retreat for their wives, children, flocks and herds, &c. making every vigorous struggle for their defence, and fortifying at intervals all the heights for places of refuge. These
afterwards

afterwards being seized by the Romans, were occupied and enlarged, and greatly improved by them; the Britons having scarce ingenuity enough to erect such camps at the time, the grand remains of which are now to be seen. Hence however they still retained the British name Abone, hence we see British coins and some Saxon (as they afterwards occupied them) found together with the Roman on some odd shaped camps on hills, which before most probably were British; (as it is well observed by the ingenious Dr. Nash, in the history of Worcestershire): but the politic Romans more skilled in the military arts left no advantageous post unoccupied or unimproved.

As they prosecuted their conquests through the island, they established forts at the most convenient places for their greater security; some for the immediate occasion only, whilst others were erected into stationary camps, especially on the banks of rivers, with a view of better maintaining their conquests and settlements, and of uniting and readily communicating by such a chain of forts with their countrymen. No sooner were the British towns subject to their arms, but they surrounded them with forts and with camps: *Civitates-Præfidiis et Castellis circumdatae*, says Tacitus, c. xx. Ostorius about the year of Christ 50, extended his victorious arms upon the banks of the Severn: and secured that river and the Avon: but Julius Frontinus conquered the Silures and gave name to the *via Julia* or *Julia Strata* of *Necham*, between Bath and Caerwent. And as our camps at Clifton, Rownham, and Henbury lay in the direct road to the country of the Silures and Caerwent on the other side of the Severn, there is reason to believe this station was formed or greatly enlarged under Ostorius's government here. The commanding spot on Leigh-down and Clifton-hill, on the very summit of the rock on each side the river being chosen; they marked out the compass of the intended camps, allotted a convenient area in each, dug out the four fosses, rose the three ramparts or valla, and with the stones here ready at hand, constructed the high strong walls, heaping the stones together in a very irregular manner, and sloping it gradually to the top, from eighteen or twenty feet at the base to two or three at the crest, pouring their boiling mortar among the loosely piled stones; which being thin and fluid, insinuated itself into the many openings and hollows of the work, and by its strength bound together all the irregular pieces of stone into a compact wall, as appears evidently at this day. The shape of the hills confined them to a construction and form nearly circular.* A deep and hollow valley or comb (D) alone separated the two camps on the

C

Leigh

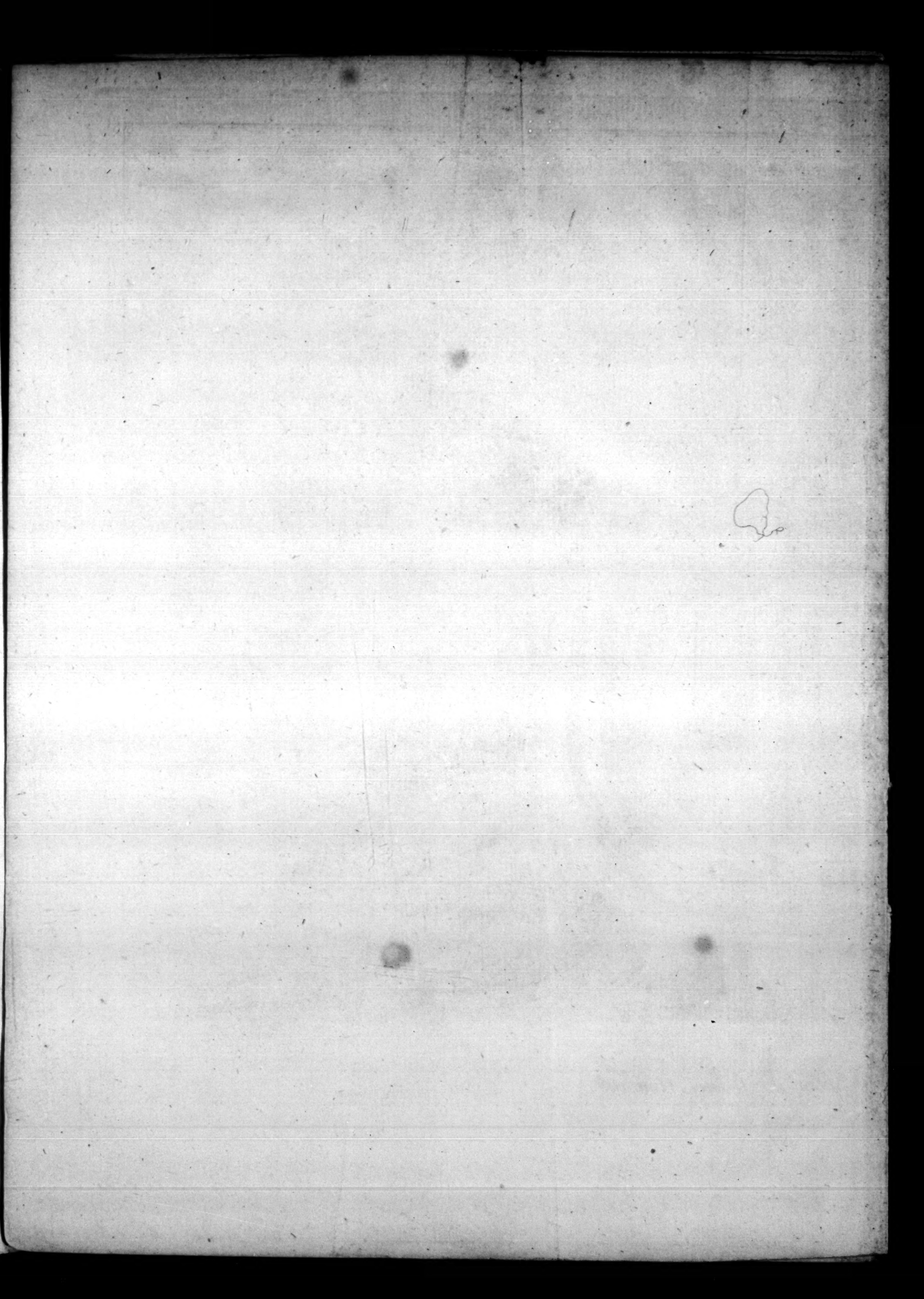
* Vegetius says, *Interdum Romanorum Castra Ec.* i. e. sometimes the Roman camps were square, sometimes triangular, sometimes half round, as the nature and necessity of the ground required.

Leigh-side, and served as a passage down to the river, for each to get water for their use, where was a vadum (E) or communication over a shallow ford with their companions at Clifton camp (A); by which they had the command of both sides of the Avon. There are two entrances into this camp at Rounham hill called in old writings * Bowre or Bower-walls, (B) perhaps Burgh or Borough-walls i. e. of the fort or burgus, one in front, the *porta prætoria*, the other at the side the *porta sinistra*, the back part and right side of it joining the very edge of the precipice next the Avon, the *porta decumana* and the *dextra* had no place here. At Stokeleigh-camp (C) on the other side the deep comb may be traced two openings or gate ways; and on the right side appear the ruins of the *prætorium* (F) at this day; the northern extremity of the area and rudera of the building shewing it to have been round, encircled with a trench, and situated at the very angle of the two concurrent precipices, a proper and secure place for the citadel of the garrison: if it were not the *prætorium*, which is sometimes placed on one side on the lofty margin of rivers, it might be a *facellum* or sacred armoury for laying up the *vexilla* or ensigns of the several cohorts which had the *Aquilæ simulacra deorum & Imagines principum* upon them, and were accounted sacred by the Roman soldiers; the place being dedicated it is likely to *Mars signifer* or *Mars ultor*, not unlikely *Arthur's oven* in Gordon's *itinerarium septentrionale*.

The tremendous height on the rocks on which these camps were formed gave the Romans a vast advantage of descrying any enemy at a distance by land, or any invasion by sea, the whole country around and the Severn being here open to their view. And a fire from this lofty site served as a beacon to alarm all at their distant camps, at Henbury, Amesbury and parts adjacent.

The importance of their station here is sufficiently proved by the high and strong walls, treble ditches and fences with which they are secured. Art and nature joined to render it a most impregnable fortress, secured on one side by the lofty rock and precipice, a deep comb, the river below with a fort on the other side opposite the comb, and on the other by lofty strong walls, three deep ditches one within the other. Their situation answered every purpose and advantage for a defence-post, for here they enjoyed the privilege of using their *balistæ* and *catapultæ*, their only missile weapons for throwing huge stones with the greatest force from these heights, which must fall with the greater weight and effect; here the land itself was more defensible and tenible; here they

* In *Bower latere videtur Burgus Iter. Tho. Gale p. 61.* The vale under and in view of this camp is called Borough-Ashton to this day. The word chester or burgh, says Horsely, gives us some help in fixing a Roman station.





W.T. Barrett del.

Roman Camps on the River Avon ab



above the Bristol Hotwells.

Baire sc.

they had a full view of their enemy and an army, vessels or fleets at a distance, when meditating an attack; here by being on the narrow arm of a large navigable river, and its lowest position towards the Severn and sea, they could cut off all navigation by an enemy and keep open a free and effectual communication with their friends across Kingroad to Caerwent, their next station, and by the camps being double and on opposite sides and facing each other, they commanded two sides of a fine country, and could from at least one of them annoy any vessels or boats passing under them or near the banks of the river, and if in the middle of the stream at full tide they could easily reach them by a double attack, and discharge of their missiles from each side of the river; here lastly they had a free use of water to drink &c. and at Sea-mills a good and sufficient strand for buildings, &c.

From these two camps Bower-walls (B) and Stokeleigh (C) on Leigh down, a *praetentura* or fence against any inroad or attack upon their lines is to be traced, the ranges of stone appearing still for some miles, joining in one from each camp at the top of the comb, then proceeding in a nearly straight direction toward Fayland. At every opening towards the vales and at every eminence where a distant prospect of the country around and of the river afforded an opportunity of descrying an approaching enemy, there circular watch-towers were raised, there the ruins of walls crossing the fence and outworks for garrisons, &c. still appear; the stones ranging in that manner loose above ground at this day. This fence may be traced all the way westward by the broad high stony bank for many miles skirting the hill, fronting the south and extending towards Clevedon and Walton, * where are now traces of camps marked out near the Severn, which seems to have been its bounds; there is a large camp now compleat called Cadbury, which is circular with a double foss and high aggera, and under it near Tickenham, Roman coins have been dug, many of which were in possession of the late Sir Abraham Elton of Clevedon, Bart. also three urns of Roman coins, some of Constantine and others of different ages were dug up in Nailsea and Ken-moor not far from the camp,† at a place called Nailsea-wall, which divides Ken-moor

C 2

and

* Gual is a rampart, from thence is formed Wall, Bal. Val. in the name of towns, as Walton, a rampart town or place.

† These coins are many of them now in the possession of Mrs. Hinkes of Nailsea, and a far greater quantity to the amount of several hundred were given to the late Sir J. Smith of Ashton-Court, by Mr. Chatterton, father of that Thomas Chatterton, who has occasioned such disputes relative to some ancient poems published under the name of T. Rowley, said by him to be copied from some manuscript originals once in his father's possession. Sir John Hugh Smith Bart.

and Nailsea-moor. There are vestiges also of a circular castrum on the brow of a hill opposite Nash-house, and near Fayland Inn, about seventy feet diameter a castellet, and about three quarters of a mile farther eastward is a square fort or exploratory turret about seventy feet square. These were fortresses or chesters all garrisoned, attendant on the principal station of Clifton and Abone, and the old roads from the camps on Leigh-down may be still traced through an orchard at the village of Leigh, and through Leigh-wood down to the river Avon at Sea-mills; on the Banks of which was the Roman summer station, occupying the heights on both sides the Avon down to Sea-mills, from whence the whole with great propriety was called Abone:—a station which for security, by having a view and command of the country and of the rivers Avon and Severn, could no where be chosen more properly by this military and politic people. And by erecting other camps at Henbury, Almonsbury, &c. they completely fortified the Severn and Avon, agreeable to Tacitus's description; who, lib. xii. Ann. says, "the General Ostorius prepares to disarm the suspected Britons, and to keep or comprehend the rivers Avon* and Severn fenced with camps." Baxter says, in Gloss. "Antona Tacitor dicitur flumen Abona quod aquas calidas seu Badixam præterfluit etiam si plurima fuerunt per universam Britanniam etsi minoris notæ."

Thus situated, the Romans lived in garrison here in summer, and in winter chiefly under the hills, for a great extent of country. They were secured from any invasion from the Britons on the South side by their camps and fences on the hills, with the river Severn in the front, the banks of the Avon on both sides, and a fruitful vale in their possession, guarded by little agrarian camps. Here they had a ready supply of water, food for their cattle, and corn for themselves. A stone with a hole in the middle, a little handmill-stone with which they used to grind their corn is still preserved, found at Stokeleigh camp; and the hilt of an old sword was found there. As this was the direct road to Caerwent from the Aquæ Solis or Bath, so doubtless there must have been a great and frequent communication across the river Severn at this place with the station at Caerwent, after the conquest of the Silures, &c. by Ostorius. It appears, that the

hath many of these coins at present, and has been so obliging as to communicate several to the Author of this History, and is a living witness of Chatterton the father's speaking about them, and saying that they were found near Ken-moor; a proof of his having some taste for antiquities.

* *Aufonam Authore Camdeno.*—In British language Avon is frequently contracted into *Aun*, *An*, or *Un*, as is observed by the Rev. Mr. Whitaker, in his elegant History of Manchester: so that it is not improbable that the Romans formed *Antonam* from Avon. Horsely calls *Antonam* the Avon; and p. 33, says, "Ostorius we find with his army upon the rivers Severn and Avon, and hereabouts the body of his army, for the most part, seems to have lain."

the British towns were all connected with, or situated nigh, the Roman stations, as before observed, and antiquaries have been critically nice in pointing out their connection and situation; except those towns which were formed into colonies from the beginning, and therefore no camps attendant on them.

Under the hill of Clifton, nigh to their station Abone, lay *Caer Oder nant Avon*, (*Caer Brito*), or Bristol, not a mile East from and just under the Roman camps. And Horsely observes, p. 464, "a Roman station may be at a mile or two distance, and yet the town may have arisen out of its ruins." Lipsius, in his Commentary on Polibius, lib. v. p. 9, where he is treating of the Roman camps, says, "the winter camps were more accurately, and with greater works constructed than the summer; the former being calculated for longer stay, and more necessities therefore required. These were stationary, and had more apartments and places belonging to them, as a place of arms, workshop, hospital, and the like: indeed they were often built more like towns, especially in the lower times of the empire, and where there were continual stations and *prætenturæ* or outworks against an enemy; such are on the banks of rivers, of the Danube, Rhine, and Euphrates:" and then he adds, "this is the origin and birth of many noble towns at this day,"—"hæc ea origo & genitura nobilium aliquot hodie oppidorum." And an excellent observation it is, which leaves but little doubt of the city of Bristol, as well as many other cities, deriving their origin from the camps of this polished military people in their neighbourhood.

It is also well observed by Horsely, in his Essay on Antonine's Itinerary, in the *Britannia Romana*, p. 393, "how careful the Romans were to have their stations placed near a river, and there was no situation they seemed so fond of as a *lingula*, near the confluence of a larger and smaller river. If we run along a military way, we are almost sure to meet with a station whenever we meet with a river, at any reasonable distance from a preceding station."—"The places also mentioned in the Itinerary seem generally to be *castra stativa*, and there are generally rubbish, lime, and remains of buildings, in such stations as these. For besides the fort or citadel, garrisoned by Roman soldiers or auxiliaries, there was usually a town adjacent, which in all likelihood was mostly inhabited by the Britons."

How well these observations of Mr. Horsely agree with the camps at Clifton and the city of Bristol in the neighbourhood, is very obvious to any one; nor is it an improbable conjecture, that the very name *Caer Brito*, (the British city,) might at first be given to it for distinction, as inhabited by the Britons, under the protection and government of the Romans in their station near it.

Although

Although these curious remains of antiquity are within a mile of Bristol, yet little or no attention has ever been paid to them hitherto by a busy and commercial people, wholly engaged in other pursuits; and what is more to be admired, they have been passed by unnoticed by Camden, Gale, and other writers. If the more obvious antiquities should be so carelessly overlooked, it is no wonder the secret whispers of tradition should be disregarded; though such traditions, however mixt with fable, do often lead to the discovery of truth. Of this kind is the following story, recorded by Sir Robert Atkins in his History of Gloucestershire.

“ Before the port of Bristol was settled in Frome river, there seems to have
 “ been a dispute, whether a place called Sea-mills was not as convenient a port
 “ as the other, several large and small ships having been built there. This
 “ occasioned the extravagant fabulous story concerning St. Vincent and Goram,
 “ whom the story makes to be mighty giants, and that they contended which way
 “ the rivers Avon and Frome should vent themselves into the Severn: if the port
 “ of Sea-mills had been judged more convenient, then Goram had prevailed,
 “ because his hermitage was at Westbury, on the side of the brook Trim, which
 “ runs to Sea-mills. But the port of Frome being thought more advantage-
 “ ous, therefore the miracle relates, that St. Vincent clave the rocks asunder,
 “ and so gave passage to the rivers, because those rocks derive their name
 “ from a chapel there, dedicated to that faint.”

This seems to take its rise from some reality, and may have truth for its foundation, though obscured by fable and superstition. The Roman coins, old foundations of walls, bricks, tiles, &c. dug up here, especially in making the great dock at Sea-mills, shew it to have been a place inhabited by that military people; having several camps (*castra æstiva*) or entrenched posts on the high hills of St. Vincent and the opposite rocks, at Henbury, and other places in the neighbourhood. The Romans in time having deserted their station of Abone, on the banks of the river Avon, and the port and harbour here in the river Trim, where their galleys for passing over by water to Caër-went their next station lay; the port of Bristol, Caër Nante Avon, (the city in the vale of Avon river) flourished, and became a great city in its stead: Goram, the strong champion of the river Trim, (or the strong warlike Romans there) no longer keeping that station; and St. Vincent (or the civilized, religious, converted Britons under his patronage) settling the port of Bristol at the more convenient conflux of the two rivers, the Avon and the Frome; which, in those times, could not but be attributed to the interposition of a faint, who had a chapel and hermitage on the summit of Clifton rock, (of which

which see before William of Worcester, p. 13.) But it would add greatly to our supposition of the Abone of the Romans being at this place, if it should appear upon examination that the Roman road, betwixt Aquæ Solis (Bath) and their next station Venta Silurum (Caerwent), lay in this direction: and that the distances of the miles betwixt the two stations should exactly answer, both in Antonine's Itinerary and in Richard of Cirencester. This would be a great confirmation of the truth, worthy of the nicest enquiry, especially as that Iter xiv. of Antonine has been so much disputed: — *Et adhuc sub iudice Lis est.*

Dr. Stukely, in his Itin. Curios. p. 144, v. 1, gives the fourteenth Iter of Antonine thus: Ab Ifca ad Callevam M. P. c. iii. sic.

<i>Ifca</i>	<i>Leg. 11 Aug.</i>	- - -	Caerleon.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	- - -	-	Caerwent, - ix M. P.
<i>Trajectus,</i>	- - -	-	Oldbury, - ix M. P.
<i>Abone,</i>	- - -	-	Henbury, - ix.
<i>Aquæ Solis,</i>	- - -	-	Bath, - - vi.
<i>Verlucio,</i>	- - -	-	Hedington, xx.
<i>Cunetio,</i>	- - -	-	Marlborough, x.
<i>Spinæ,</i>	- - -	-	Newbury, xv.
<i>Vindomia,</i>	- - -	-	Silchester, - x.
<i>Calleva Atrebatum,</i>	- - -	-	Farnham, - xv.

and is of opinion with Dr. Gale, that Trajectus and Abone are transposed. It is very remarkable he makes Abone to be Henbury, which indeed was one of the camps dependent on their station of Abone. — Where in the Itinerary of Antonine and Richard of Cirencester, the rivers ad Abone, ad Sabrinam, are mentioned; the Romans might have only strong camps by those rivers, and before the towns and cities were fully built; which were afterwards raised by the Britons near those camps, which served as inns and defensible posts to the Romans in their journies across the rivers to their other cities or stations, as observed by the judicious Doctor, in his observations on Richard of Cirencester. It is mentioned in Somner on forts and posts (p. 38.) in Kent, that the numerals in Antonine are often wrong, and not to be relied on: "there is not much heed (says he) to be given to the distances there, being (as some have observed) often mistaken;" therefore if the beginning and end of the Iter be well known and set right, the intermediate places may be easily made out by camps, coins found, or Roman remains, as well as by rivers, roads, and situation. But the Doctor, in his account of Richard of Cirencester, makes some alterations in the names, and interprets the eleventh Iter of Richard

Richard thus. — From Aquæ Solis, Bath, by the Julian-street to Menapia: thus in Richard, Iter xi. Ab aquis per viam Julian Menapiam usque Sic.

Ad Abonam M. P. vi. Sabrinam vi. unde Trajectu intras in Britanniam secundam et stationem Trajectus M. P. iii. Venta Silurum ix. ubi fuit Aaron Martyr; Isca Silurum ix. Tibiæ Amni M. P. vii. Bovio xx. Nido xv. Leucario xv. ad Vigessimum xx. ad Menapiam xix. ab hac urbe per triginta M. P. Navigas in Hyberniam. To which Dr. Stukely assigns the following names.

<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	- - - -	Bath.
<i>Ad Alone for Abone,</i>	vi. -	Olland, near Kainsham, Gloucestershire.
<i>Ad Sabrinam,</i>	- - vi. -	Auft upon Severn.
<i>Statio Trajectus,</i>	- iii. -	Tydenham or Chepstow.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	} - ix. -	Caerwent, Monmouthshire.
<i>Stipendiaria,</i>		
<i>Isca Silurum,</i>	} - ix. -	Caerleon.
<i>Colon. leg Aug.</i>		
<i>Tibia Amnis,</i>	- - vii. -	Caerdiff.
<i>Bovium,</i>	- - - xx. -	Cowbridge, Glamorganshire.
<i>Nidum,</i>	- - - xv. -	Neath.
<i>Leucarium,</i>	- - - xv. -	Loghor.
<i>Ad Vigessimum</i>	} - xx. -	Narboth castle.
<i>Lapidem,</i>		
<i>Menapa,</i>	- - - xix. -	St. David's.

To make this agree with Antonine's Iter and it proves Abone in that is transposed and should be placed before Trajectus, I would interpret it thus

<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	- - - -	Bath.
<i>Ad Abone,</i>	- - vi. -	To the station at Clifton on the river Avon.
<i>Ad Sabrinam,</i>	- vi. -	The Severn.
<i>Trajectus,</i>	- - iii. -	Portishead camp on the point.
<i>Statio Trajectus,</i>	- - -	Sudbrook square camp the place of landing on the other side in going to
<i>Venta Silurum</i>	- ix. -	Caerwent.

Here the six miles at Abone is demonstrably a wrong numeral; it should be xi. which exactly make the miles the same as in Antonine.

The distance from Bath through Hanham to the station at Clifton, may be reckoned about eleven or twelve computed miles: and the other intermediate distances agreeing with each other, we need not be too curious about the names of the stations in Richard's time, as they might alter; but both the distances

distances and stations agree in bringing the road through or near to Bristol, in fixing one at Abone next to it, and proceeding to one common Trajectus and so to Caerwent: whether any likelier places proved to be Roman by so many camps coins and other antiquities can be found, must now be submitted to the judgment of every candid enquirer. Gale, Horsely and Stukely take us to Oldbury on the Severn as the only Trajectus, quite a circuitous road in no respect answering to the order of the places, still less to the distances, nor to the course of the country, to which the road tends. There may be errors in the numerals, which appear too clearly, neither is exactness pretended; but we cannot err as to the right road pointed out in both Itineraries, and as to the beginning and end of the Iter, which are plain enough. Leland indeed says in Collect. Tam corruptum est &c. "This Itinerary of Antonine or whose ever it be, is so corrupt, as to require some Apollo to decypher it, for many names are misspelt, the order of the places and numbers inverted and vary in different copies, being set out of their places." This granted, it must breed strange confusion; but if we are certain as to the beginning and end of an Iter, whatever differences there may be in the number of miles or order of the places, we cannot err much in pursuing the direct road, open and uninterrupted as it is with hills; and this line of road can no where be so proper and eligible as through the Roman camp at Bristol and their station there in their passage over to Caerwent. To suppose with Camden and others, that Trajectus meant Oldbury, or Newenham with Baxter, and Abone to be Alvington or Avington, can have little shew of probability. It contradicts the order of places so much, it does not in any degree coincide with the distances set against each, and makes such unreasonable allowances in the computation as leaves us in the wildest uncertainty: absolute certainty and demonstration must not be insisted on; but it may be left to every impartial enquirer, whether in general those are not most probably the real places designed in the Itineraries above, where the distances are in the nearest conformity with those set down; where Roman stations can be proved to have existed, even now to be traced by old encampments and coins found therein, and where the straightest road to the place lies. But to go from Bath to Oldbury in Gloucestershire, or from Abone at Clifton thither and then over the Severn to Beachly as the Trajectus, and so over the Wye to Caerwent, would be such a diversion of the road as is scarce credible.

The fourteenth Iter of Antonine may be explained thus, Iter alio Itinere ab Isca callevam usque m. p. C. iii.

D

Ab. Isca,

<i>Ab Isca,</i>	- - - - -	Carleon.
<i>Venta Silurum,</i>	M. P. ix. - - - - -	Caerwent.
<i>Trajectus,</i>	transposed for Abone, M. P. ix.	The passage over the water, or to Portishead.
<i>Abone</i>	M. P. ix. - - - - -	The station and camps at Clifton.
<i>Aq. Solis,</i>	M. P. vi. - - - - -	Bath xi.
<i>Verlucione,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Lacock, where and at Leckham, Naish Hill and Notton, coins have often been found.
<i>Cunetione,</i>	M. P. xx. - - - - -	Marlborough on the Kennet.
<i>Spinis,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Speen.
<i>Calleva,</i>	M. P. xv. - - - - -	Silchester or Wallingford.

The sum total prefixed is one hundred and three miles, but the particulars amount to but ninety eight, which proves the numbers to be erroneous. If eleven be the numeral at Aq. Solis, it would make up the one hundred and three miles of the Iter, and it would come very near to the true distance betwixt Bath and Abone at the Clifton camp, and the nine miles over the Severn from Caerwent would be as near the truth as can be expected.

Roger Gale, who communicated to Mr. Hearn an account of the four Roman Ways, has in addition to that letter published in Leland's Collectanea, p. 275, v. 6. 2 ed. some observations concerning the Western Avon—and says there, “that beneath Gloucester we have but one station, Trajectus, at “Oldbury;”—but quære's, “whether the old names, or situation of their “stations on the Western Avon are yet retrieved by us, which I suspect must “be left to time, and the observations of those, who are better acquainted with “that country than I am, to determine.”—This is no less candidly than judiciously remarked; for Trajectus at Oldbury has been ever looked upon as the only Roman station here by Cambden, &c. yet it now comes out, that the Romans in their journies into Wales or Caerwent, might and did fix other stations, particularly this at Abone and Clifton, on the banks of the Avon, near which was the Trajectus in a strait road from Bath or Aquæ Solis, to Caerwent, answering nearly as we see to the m. p. or miles set against each in Antonine's Itinerary, which no other Trajectus does.—Oland, or Oldland, near Hanham, though no traces there ascertain it, has been conjectured by some to be one, about nine miles from Bath; but from Abone, Sea-Mills or Portishead, the Trajectus across the Severn about nine miles, is direct to Caerwent:—The other Roman way from Bath to Oldbury, being over the hilly ground of Landdown passing near Wick, (*Vicus*,) where Roman relicks were found just under the

the hill by R. Haynes, Esq;—so by Pucklechurch to Bury-hill, on the From; whence the road was to Almonsbury, and to Aust or Oldbury, and over the Severn to Lydney, where is a great camp, (delineated in Archæol. v. 5.) near the borders of that river; and so into Herefordshire, &c.

It appears hence the Romans had more than one Trajectus across the Severn; but to Caerwent they could have none so convenient and direct as this at Abone near Bristol:—if they crossed at Aust for that station strait to the other side to Beachly, or to Tidenham on the same shore, they must have had a second trouble to ferry over another dangerous and rapid river the Wye, where Chepstow Bridge now stands, or must have sailed down the Severn from Aust some way till they came on a line with Caerwent, many miles out of their direct course.

Horfely, p. 469, says, “the military way running Eastward from Caerwent is large and remarkable: I observed it to leave the high way to Chepstow, and inclining to the South to bend its course towards the Severn, but I had not opportunity to trace it to the side of the river.—The name Old Passage may not have so distant a retrospect as the Roman Trajectus, but yet I conclude from the course of the military way which I observed myself, that the Roman passage has been below the mouth of the Wye, and I scarce think the landing place on the South side can be near so high as Oldbury, though this is generally supposed; and for this reason, Oldbury has got the name of Trajectus, a transposition of names being now more generally admitted.”—Had Mr. Horfely continued his rout on the military way to the bank of the Severn, he would then have found the grand camp of Sudbrook to be the station, where they crossed the Severn to Abone the other side near Bristol.

It is worthy of observation, that the little river Throggy, on the bank of which lies the great square camp Sudbrook, opens here into the Severn, in a direction almost opposite to the Bristol Avon on the other side, as appears on viewing it across Kingroad, Penpoll near Shirehampton rising to the view very distinct; the mouth of the Throggy forms still a kind of pill for vessels, and the river itself, though now small and filled up, was evidently once navigable up to the city of Caerwent; the bed of the river still appearing open, broad, and deep in many places, so that the communication with the Aquæ Solis or Bath and the Abone near Bristol and Caerwent, was direct, free and well guarded; and doubtless such a well peopled city as Caerwent evidently was, the seat of Roman arts and arms, grandeur and luxury, held great correspondence across the Severn with the other stations and commercial intercourse with all the country they possessed.—In the year 1777, a tessellated pavement

was discovered in an orchard at Caerwent, about 21 feet long by 18 broad, made by small square pieces of stone about half an inch or more square, inlaid in an elegant form in waving lines and twisted chainlike shapes, with a very large rose in the center of the floor, surrounded with a circle charged with ten smaller roses, painted with four colours, red, yellow, white, and blue; the side-wall was plastered smooth and painted red. It seems to have been the state room or tent of the Prefect of the *Legio secunda Aug.* an inscription on a stone dug up here was, "*Julia Esseunda vixit annos xxxv.*"

Upon the Romans leaving their station here and at Caerwent and Caerleon, and upon their departure from the island of Britain, the cities and mansions on both sides the Severn, which grew up and flourished in peace under their strict discipline and government, became in a state of confusion, being terribly harraffed by the intestine divisions of the Britons themselves, and afterwards by foreigners called in to their aid. Caerwent and Caerleon encompassed with brick-walls, and celebrated for their lofty palaces and temples, Roman baths, tessellated pavements, hypocausta and theaters, as well as a vast concourse of merchants and learned men, fell under the general calamity: the first dwindling into a place of no note but for the coins and Roman bricks and inscriptions still dug up there, the latter lying buried in its ruins, and *ipsæ periere ruinæ*;—now it cannot be supposed the petty towns in their neighbourhood, Newport and Chepstow, which rose on their ruins, (being also as much, if not more exposed,) should receive and afford a secure retreat and asylum to the numerous inhabitants, as well merchants as others, of these populous cities, which must have had then the greatest commerce and free trade of any in the West of England, to supply the conveniences and luxuries of such a multitude of polished citizens;—no; they would naturally apply to places and stations of greater safety and well adapted to trade; and where they could enjoy, uninterrupted, a free navigation and security of commerce. It may therefore be believed, and with the greatest probability if not certainty, that they immediately fled from their disturbed condition at Caerleon and Caerwent, and transported themselves directly across the Severn at Kingroad, to Bristol, then a city also under the protection of the Romans at Clifton and Leigh in its neighbourhood; and the well-known station of the Romans here, and usual intercourse across the Severn, pointed out to them the propriety of their choice, and the security they should enjoy here unmolested.

After they had once seated themselves here, and the Romans had left their fortified station at Clifton, the Britons confining on the Severn and in its neighbourhood soon flocked hither and increased the establishment of the city:—

The

The colonies the Romans had at the camps of Henbury, Almondsbury, Old Abby, Sodbury, Hinton-Durham, and other adjacent places, supplied many inhabitants that did not follow the Romans, but contributed to the speedy advance and population of the city. Bristol is justly reputed to be a secure place in times of tumult and popular commotions, which we know from history to have been the case of Britain when the Romans left it, as appears from their complaints sent to Rome afterwards, of which Gildas gives a most pathetic and lamentable account.

Where then could the merchant, the tradesman, the rich or the poor mechanic, find a place of greater safety in such times than Bristol, not liable to be suddenly surpris'd and attacked, the Avon being its guard on the Somerset side, and the Frome winding round it formed it into an island, a very natural and most effectual defence; and the Severn in some respects, with its several fortresses and entrenched posts, formed a distant defence and barrier on the North and West side; and at the same time by its free communication by water with other places and the sea, was the best adapted for a convenient habitation and enjoying all the advantages of commerce, and thereby a quick supply of every necessary of life.

Besides what has been advanced of the Roman camps and stations here, under which the city of Bristol rose and flourished, it must be added, that it is highly probable that military people occupied the very hills within the precincts of the city;—as experienced Generals they would possess themselves of all the heights near their principal stations—accordingly we find Roman coins have been dug out of the earth on St. Michael's-hill, within the city, by Thomas Tyndale, Esq; at the Fort, when he formed and walled in a large garden there. The coins were of Constantine, Constantius Gordian, and Tetricus;—and in the field behind the Montague Inn on Kingsdown, in 1780, was found four feet deep, a coin of Constantine, with the following inscription, *Imp. C. Constantinus p. F. Aug.* a laureated head:—on the reverse, a figure of the sun, with *Soli Inviato Comiti*.

But both St. Michael's-hill and Brandon-hill have undergone such alterations by time, large fortifications and entrenched posts having been made there in later days, especially in the great rebellion 1641, that their surfaces have often taken a new form, and the appearance of the ancient entrenchments is lost; and every vestige of Roman antiquity must necessarily be destroyed and effaced, the coins found being now the only proofs of their having once occupied these hills.

As

As it was then from the Roman camps in its neighbourhood, and the road betwixt Bath and Caerwent passing this way, Bristol may be said to have deduced its first origin,* the Britons living there under their protection and government. So from the downfall of those populous cities of Caerwent and Caerleon, upon the retreat of the Romans from Britain, it flourished and increased in a most rapid manner by a great accession of new inhabitants from across the Severn; who soon enlarged its commerce, and supplied those conveniences and luxuries, with which the numerous and polite inhabitants of those cities in Wales used to be supplied; and upon the coming of the Saxons, who afterwards occupied the strong camps and posts deserted by the Romans, (as Saxon coins dug up there also shew,)—Bristol we shall find soon became the grand seaport and mart of the West Saxon kingdom, agreeable to what Leland has said of it, “*Aucta est a Saxonibus*,”—it was increased by the Saxons—who usually built on Roman foundations, and occupied places deserted by them.

If it should be farther asked, at what particular period of time it was founded? To answer this question with precision may not perhaps be in any one’s power, involved as it is in so much obscurity, and difficult from the remoteness of the time, it can only be said to have taken its rise, beyond doubt, from the Roman station Abone; growing up by degrees from it, and at last being blended with it, while the Romans used to pass the Severn to Caerwent;—rising within the century after the birth of Christ, and advancing in population, trade and grandeur from that time, keeping pace with the Romans, while here, and after their leaving the island, increasing by a vast accession of inhabitants from every quarter.

C H A P.

* Though I suppose this to have been the first origin of the city of Bristol, it is not to be omitted, that there is a traditionary account mentioned also by Ross, Leland, and in William of Worcester’s manuscripts; and a manuscript by Ricaut, in the Chamber of Bristol, that Brennus founded Bristol;—but as the story of Brennus and Bellinus is not well authenticated, and there is little historical evidence for it, like the accounts of Jeffery of Monmouth, of Brute and his Trojans coming hither, deemed all equally fabulous, it will be needless to pursue the enquiry.

C H A P. II.

Of BRISTOL in the SAXON and NORMAN Times.

HAVING investigated the origin and first rise of the city at the Roman-British period, I proceed next with the Saxon and Norman accounts.

A manuscript discourse on Bristol, which has the marks of great antiquity, said to be wrote by Turgot, a Saxon, in *Saxonnes Latyn*, must be acknowledged to be of great weight; and as the writer lived to give the following account of Bristol not long after the very time, in which Cambden asserts Bristol to have first risen, it will be a full confutation of that eminent antiquarian. I shall add the same Turgot's "account of auncient coynes found at and near Bristowe, with the hystorie of the fyrst coynynge by the Saxonnes, also an account of monumental incriptions, said to be done from the Saxon ynto Englyshe by T. Rowlie." This Turgot is said to be a Bristol man, was prior of Durham, afterwards Bishop of St. Andrews in Scotland; he writ a history of Scotland, also chronicles of Durham; annals of his own time, and the life of K. Malcolm. It is said he wrote also a Saxon poem called, the Bloody Battle of Hastynges.

All the works of Turgot have never been published; especially the following curious account of Bristol, said in a very old manuscript to be translated by T. Rowlie out of Saxon into English, now in my possession. Turgot * it appears was prior of Durham in 1088, having succeeded his preceptor Aldwin who died 1087 in that priory, and was consecrated Bishop of St. Andrews in 1108, and was buried at Durham seven years after 1115.

"Sect. II. of Turgoteus. — Strange as it maie seem that there were Walles to Radclefte, yet full & true ytte is beyng the Walles of Brightrycus pallace, & in owre daies remainethe there a small piece neie Efelwynnes Towre. I conceive not it coulde be square, tho Tradytyon so saieth: the Inhabiters wythyn the Walle had ryghte of Tolle on the Ryvers Severne & a part of Avon. Thus much of Radclefte Walles. On whych passage of Turgot, T. Rowlie subjoins

* Leland in Collectan V. ii. 542, 538, gives an account of Turgot (*quodam Clerico Turgoto*) taken out of a manuscript book, of the Bishops of Lindisfarm.

subjoins the following Emendal or Note:—Hence myghte be the reasonne whie the Indabitors of Radclefte callyd much of the River Avon, Severne; because formerlie reckoned in theyre Tollege with the Severne, as Inhabiter of Radclefte have I used Severne for Abona or Avon, & accounted Severne to reeche over anent Radclefte Strete.

“ Sect. III. of Turgotus. — Nowe to speake of Bryghtstowe, yttes Walles & Castelle beyng the fayrest buyldinge, of ytte I shalle speake fyrste. The pryncipale Streets meete in forme of a Crosse, & is a goode patterne for the Cityes of Chrystyannes. Brightrycus fyrst ybuylden the Walles in fashyon allmoste Square wythe four Gates — Elle Gate, Baldwynnes or Leonardes Gate, Froome or the Water Gate and Nycholas or Wareburgha's, so cleped from Wareburga of the House of Wulverus Konyng of Mercia (& here be ytte noted that Brightstowe was sometymes inne the hondes of the Mercyes some-tyme of the West Saxones, tyll Bryghtricus walled ytte, ande fixede ytte for ever to hys). Thys Wareburga was baptyzed bye Saynte Warburgus, & had a Chyrche ybuilte to her by the Brystowans — Almost arounde the Walles was Watere & fowre Brydges or fordes. Elle forde, Santforde or Halleforde beyng where Tradition sayes Saynte Warburgus passyd; Frome Forde & Baldwynnes's Forde, beyng where Tradytionne saies Saynte Baldwyne flee the Danes that fled from Bultyngteatune. The Walles have suffred alteratyon synce Edward Sonne of Alfrydus Magnus A. D. DIVC-XV.* ybuylden the the Walles & newly ybuylden the Castle — beeyng the goodlyeste of the five ybuilden on Abone Bankes & a greete checke to the Danes: he caused the Gate neare Baldwynnes forde to be callyde Baldwynes before Leonardes. The Castle thus ybuilden ytte was yeven in sure keepyng to Ella a Mercyan synce hee routted the Danes at Watchette wythe hys Brystowans: and at Wykewarre with hys owne Menne and those of Wykewarre, at Canyngan & Alluncengan† with his Brystowans. At the laste place he conquered: but Englande payde dearlie for the Battle, he dyed in Brystowe Castle of hys Woundes. He was the staye of the Weste and the Guardyan of Gloucestre, whyche after hys Dethe was pyteousslie sacked—he gave Name to Ellingham ande Elecestre. Coernicus succeeds in the Castle, but was not so fortunate as hys predeceffoure, affordyng ne Helpe to others, havng Employmente enowe to keepe hys owne. In his days were Bathe & Gloucestre brente: the pagannes assayled Bristow ande some entryng Coerne commandyng alle the fordes to be cutte, whereby all the Dacyans whyche entered were forslayne or drowned. Inne his daies and the reyn of Kynng Aedelstan was twayne of Coiners in Bryghtstowe. From hym saie some came Corne-Street‡ — he builden anew
Wareburgas

* 915.

† So in the original.

‡ Called old Corn-street in antient writings I have seen.

Wareburgas Chyrche and added thereunto Houfen for preestes. He was brave and dyd his best agaynst the paganes. After hym was Harwarde, who was fleyn in Redcleft fyde fyghteynge againste the paganes, Whoe gotte ne honoure in fight losyng three Capytaynes Magnus Hurra & Osbraye & fleyng the feeld — Then Smallaricus, Vincent & Adelwyn — then Egwyn, from whome the Street Egwynne Streete was ybuildenne. Likewyse in his tyme was the greate Earthquake; manye housen in Brystowe fallene downe & the Fyre levyne enfyrede Radclef Strete — Shortely after on the vyolente enseefyng of the Crowne bie Ethelrede, an Infurrectyon happened in Bryghtstowe whych Egwynne appeased. After him Aylwardus, Adelbryghte, Amstuarde, Algarre, And thenne Leofwynne Sonne of Godwynne Erle of Kente. Upon the ascendyng of Edward Confessour the Nasyon was all turnyd French; ynn the nynthe Yeere of the reigne of Edward beeynge m. o. xxxxxx. Leofwynne bye thys Charter hadde Brystowe.

Iche Edward Konyng, Yeven Brystoe Castellynge

Unto the keepyng, Off Leofwynne de Godwynne

Of Clytoe Kyndlyng; Of Ballarde and Battell

Le Bartlowe * for Cattayle

Alle that on the watters flote, To take Brugbote :

Eke at ye Stowe of Wickwarre breme, And yttes Sylver Streeme

Toe take Havenyche, As Eldermanne of Iche

To hys owne Use, At his goode Thewes

Wytness owre Marke before Ralph Dunstan & Egwyn

Of owre reygne and Easter Month Yeere & Daie nyne:

Thus had hee the Castel; & hys fadre Broders, & the Citysens of Bryghtstowe ande Nobilytye of Kente entered ynto a solemne League agaynst the Londoners, Who were almoſte alle frenchmenne, makynge the sayde League at Bryghtstowe. Inne M. L. 1. the menne of Dover & Kente beyng mured by the Bullonyans, Godwynne & his Kentishmen Harolde & the Westsaxons came to Brystoe to Leofwynne, Who receevd them kyndly ynto hys Castelle & set forwarde wyth them to Gloucester & after the appoyntment came agayne to Bristowe but throughe treacheree the expedytyone myffede: Whereupon Kynge Harolde & Leofwyne came wyth Swayne, Toſtye, Wolnothus & Gyrthe to Bryghstowe & Shypped for Hybernia: ande nowe bee ytte noted that When Gryffithe Kynge of South wales & the Irish pyrates attack'd them Leofwynne stroke Galfride Kurke Capytaine to the grounde ande toke hym prysoner leavyng his armie Where by the South wallians retyrd to the Coun-

E

try

* Q. If Berklaw or Bartalaw — vid. Spelman.

try withe greete losse, Leofwyne entreated Kurke kyndlie & let hym departe to Hibernie Where upon he invited hym to Hybernie, Whither he went with 280 Brystowans."

Such is the account of our city said to be given by Turgotus. Whatever may be objected to the authenticity of this manuscript, the author can only say, it has the marks of being genuine, and is faithfully transcribed from the original parchment, not without great difficulty to decypher it, on account of the paleness of the ink and peculiarity of the character.

It is very certain, the Saxons, after the retreat of the Romans and consequent divisions and wars of the Britons, greatly increased the city both in extent of buildings and in population, and made it a place of greater commerce and resort of shipping than it had ever had in the Roman-British times. It lay more secure from Danish invasions by its inland situation, not to be approached but by a long and difficult navigation up the Bristol Channel; and this accounts for the little mention made of it by our historians, as not distinguished in the Danish wars: though they tell us, the Danes came as far as the Holmes, where they suffered a defeat and famine. Though some manuscripts insinuate, that this city did not escape their piracy and ravage.

The Saxons distinguished Bristol so early with their notice, that Edward, the son of Alfred, built a castle here for its defence; and Alfred, in the fifth year of his reign, is said, in Hollingshead, to have driven the Danes from Exeter to Dartmouth, where they took shipping, and dispersed others, "some of whom fled to Chippenham and some to Bristol." And in the *Chronologia vitæ Alfredi*, and in the Saxon Chronicle, we find the Danes spoiling all the country on the Severn, and making irruptions into various parts upon it; and there is no reason to believe Bristol to have wholly escaped.

An account at the end of Langtoff's Chronicle by Hearn, vol. ii. p. 465. says, "the Danes landed near Brent in Somersetshire, but were put to flight, a great number drowned and slain by King Alfred, and others escaped and fled to Woorle-hill, where they fortified themselves, &c." There is to be seen at this day on the said hill, a camp of wonderful strength, with many aggers; whether Danish, or not, deserves the attention of the curious.

There are many accounts of the Danes infesting Somersetshire, which about the year 900 was much exposed to their ravages, and greatly harassed by frequent invasions of them; their ships came up the Bristol Channel, and making descents on the open and defenceless towns, spread terror and desolation wherever they came. In the year 878 they landed near Biddeford with thirty-three sail of ships, and wasted the country with fire and sword; but they were overcome

overcome by the victorious Alfred, their captain Hubba and 1200 men slain, whom they buried on the shore near their ships, and the place is since called Hubbastone. " In the 915, (says Stow) a great navy of Danes sailed about " the West Country, and landed in divers places, taking great preys, and " went to their ships again. The King Edward senior, (the son of Alfred) " for strengthening the country, made a castle at the mouth of the Avon."— That they certainly infested this country as far as Bristol Avon, appears from the Saxon Chronicle. " And the Cyninge hæfde funden wyth him mon sæt " with on suth-healfe Sæfrenn-muthan westan from Wealum East oth Afæne- " muthan, &c." i. e. " In the year 918 King Edward thought fit to dispose " his army at the South part of the mouth of the Severn, from the West of " Wales towards the East to the mouth of the Avon, that they might not dare " to infest any where that part of his land: nevertheless they withdrew them- " selves privily by night at two times, once in the eastern part and at Watchet, " and another time at Porlock. But they were conquered both times, that " few remained but those only who swam to their ships. Then they set down " at the isle of Bradanrelic, (i. e. the Flat Holmes,) till they were in great " want of provisions, and many perished with hunger." *Henry of Huntingdon, l. v. 11° Edwardi senioris.* " The King caused the shores of the Severn, on " the South part from Wales to the Avon, to be guarded, &c." and " that " it was at the island of Stepen, or Steep Holmes, they suffered." Both are not far distant from each other in the Bristol Channel below Kingroad, where the Bristol ships lie at anchor.

The Anglo-Saxon kings and earls of Gloucester, the then lords or thanes of this country, long held this city under their protection and government, and received great advantages from the rents and profits of the town. Aylward Maew, or Sneaw, was lord of it before the Conquest, mentioned in Leland's Itinerary. He was a Saxon nobleman of the greatest rank and fortune, descended from Edward senior, (the builder of the castle, from whom he seems to have held Bristol by gift or inheritance.) About the year 900 he is said to be *vir in armis strenuus*, (Lel. vol. vi. p. 82.) a man of great prowess, and " Lorde of Brightestowe, and founder of the monastery of Cranbourne." His son Algar, with his wife Algiva, succeeded to the honour of Gloucester and lordship of Bristol by right of inheritance; and Brietricus, the son of Algar, after them. He, being a very rich man, resided much at Bristol, and distinguished it greatly.

Brietric, or Brightick, had great possessions, is called in Leland *viro prædicatoris*; he translated the body of King Æthelbert, buried privately on the banks

of the river Lugg, to Hereford. There is an Earl Brietric mentioned in Leland's Collect. vol. i. p. 349, the brother of Edward Streona Duke of Mercia. I have in a manuscript a note of the genealogy of Earl Brietric, from Brietric King of the West Saxons. Little Froma and Cranbourn three hides was held (with other great estates,*) by our Earl Brietric, T. E. C. worth 12 l. per ann. : the name in Doomsday-book is sometimes wrote Brihtricus.

That Brietric was a great repairer, founder, or improver of Bristol, appears from some Latin verses taken from a chronicle of Tewksbury, quoted by Dugdale in Monasticon, vol. i. p. 161.

“ Atque ego Brictanus ultimus ante conquestum Dominus
Hoc Templum fundo ; mihimet vere corde jucundo
Bristow construxi, *Honor fiat ut Crucifixi.*”

That Brictanus, or Bictanus, means Brietric, or Bithric, is very certain from the order of the founders here recited. Brietric, or Bightric, was a name, *quod versu dicere nequis*, unfit for Latin verse. Brietric being a founder of the church of Tewksbury and at Bristow at the same time† proves, that it was he probably that first annexed a cell at Bristol, dedicated to St. James, to Tewksbury abbey, afterwards attributed to Robert Fitzhaymo, a Norman knight. — Aylward above-mentioned, in the time of King Athelstan, is said in Mr. Lant's manuscript to have been a principal founder at Bristol, which indeed received great improvement afterwards from most of the Anglo-Saxon earls of Gloucester, who from him continued lords of it : it became afterwards a part of the honour of Gloucester, and the castle here the *caput honoris Glocestriae*, in the later Saxon times.

Thus the Saxons having driven away the Danes, and expelled the ancient British inhabitants of this city from their native seat here across the Severn into Wales, the *Caer Brito*, or Bristol, of the Britons became Saxonised, and the place wholly in their possession ; and the West Saxons brought into subjection all these parts. And as they could not subdue the British spirit of our Romanised ancestors, they contented themselves with fixing their station here, possessing themselves of the city and strong Roman camps in its neighbourhood, (some Saxon coins in my possession having been found together with the Roman coins dug there.) They strengthened the Saxon government here by every politic step ; and by walling the town to a larger extent than before, and increasing its trade and shipping, it soon became more and more flourishing, whilst

* Of his great possessions, vid. Annals below.

† In an old grant to the abbey of Tewksbury the rents (exitus) and tythes of Brigeston is mentioned to be paid to that abbey. Vid. Sir Robert Atkins's History of Gloucestershire.

whilst Caerleon and Caerwent, ancient seaports, lost their former grandeur, trade and importance, and from famous cities dwindled away into obscure towns, and Newport and Chepstow rose up in their stead.

In the time of Edward the Confessor, in the year 1051, (1043 say some) * Harold and Leofwine the sons of Earl Godwin, are mentioned by our historians to have been proscribed, and that coming to Bristol, " They went " aboard a ship that their brother Swayne had prepared for them and were " carried into Ireland:" this confirms the account in the manuscript history of Turgot afore mentioned page 33, where the matter is more particularly described. In 1063, Harold then Duke of Suffex and Kent embarked with his forces aboard a fleet at Bristowe to invade Wales, to take revenge on Griffyth King of Wales, between whom and Harold there was a great enmity. †

Coins have been ever looked upon, as a proof of the dignity and antiquity of the place where they are found. The Roman have been mentioned before; and the Saxons have also left here traces of themselves by their coins.

Here I shall have recourse to a curious collection of coins and monumental stones mentioned by Turgot, preserved afterwards in the cabinet of Mr. Canynge; and although the coins themselves cannot be produced, yet an account of them said to be " drawn from the cabinet itself" by Thomas Rowlie about 1460, in his own writing is still extant. And as I would give the real and genuine account of these coins in the Translator's own words from Turgot, I shall confine myself to a faithful and exact copy from the original parchment manuscript as follows, in which the ink and letters by time were almost defaced, and leave the reader to judge of its authenticity.

" Of the auntiaunte forme of Monies carefullie gotten for Mayster William Canynge by mee Thomas Rowleie."

" Greete was the wysdome of him who sayde the whole worlde is to ne one Creature, whereof every Man and Beaste is a Member; Ne Manne lyveth therefore for hymself but for hys fellow creature. Excellent and Pythey was the fayeing of Mr. Canynge that Trade is the soule of the worlde, but Monie the soule of Trade, ande alasse Monie is nowe the soule of Manie. The age when Metalles fyrste passed for monie is unnoticed: As Oxen and sheepe is thoughten to have beene the moſte earlie Monie or Change.

* Pono Haroldus & Leofwinus filii (Godwini) Bristowam adeuntes Navem quam frater Illorum Suanus sibi pacaverat, conscenderunt & in Hiberniam transveſti fuerunt — Sim. Dun. p. 185. Haroldus & Leofwinus in Hiberniam transfretarunt Chron. Brompt p. 943 apud x Script. Stows Annals by Horves. p. 95. 96.

† Florent. Wygorn. Also Turgot before p. 33.

Change. Butte ytte is styll more difficyle to fyx the fyrst tyme of flampeying ytte. Abrahame is sayde to have yeven Shekylls bie wayght: An Ebrewe Writer faithe that in the Daies of Joshua the Ebrewes enstamped theyre Monies wythe the Symboles of the Tabernacle Vessylles, butte I thynke the fyrste enstampeyng came from Heathenne Ammulets, whyche were markyd wythe the Image of theyre Idolle, & preefts dyd carrie from Housse to Housse begginge or rather demaundyng offeryngs for theyr Idolle — The Ebrewes who scorn'd not to learne Inyquytie frome theyr Captyves, & vaynlie thynkyng as in other thyngs to copy other Natyons myghte take uppe thys ensample Ande enstampeyng theyre Monie in the ould tyme of Josue beyne maie happe one of the Idolatries mentyon'd in holie wrete. Examyne into antiquytie & you wylle fynde the folk of Athens stampyd an Owelette the Byrde of Athene, the Sycylians fyre the Symbole of theyre Godde Vulcane, theie of Ægypt a couchaunt Creeture wythe a Lyonnes Boddie & a Hawkes heade Symbole of theyre Godde Ofyris: Butte to come to owre owne Countrie: Oure fyrste fathers the Bryttons usyd yron & Brasse ryngs, some round, some shapyd like an Egge: Eleven of these were founde in the Gardenne of Galfrydus Coombe on Saincte Mychaels Hylle, bie theyre dyspositionne in the grounde seemed to have been strunge onne a stryng, & were alle marquede on Insyde thus M Lykewyse is in Maystre Canynges Cabynet an Amulett of Brytishe Characters peerced at the Toppe. Julyus Cæsarres Coynes were the fyrste enstamped Monies yfede in Englande: after whomme the Bryttonnes coyned as followes. Tenantius at Caer Britoe, Cunobelyne at fundarie places, butte notte at Caer Brytoe. Arvyragus at Caer Brytoe, Maryus at Caer Brytoe, Bassianus at Caer Brytoe, Syke was the multitude of monies bie them coyned upon Vytoryes & sykelyke that neyther anie Kynge tyll Arthurres tyme coyned quantity of Metalles for anie use nor dyd Arthuree make monie but a peece of Sylverie toe be worne rounde of those who han wonne Honnour in Batelles. * Edelbarte Kynge of Kente

* Cambden says Athelbred first coined money in England, the penny weighed 3d. five pennies made a scilling, 48 scillings their pound, 400 lib. a legacy for a King's daughter. 30 pennies a macus, mancusa a mark of silver, manca a square piece of gold value 30 pennies.

But the Saxon coins, names, weights and value, are the following according to Mr. Clarke's Connexion of Roman, Saxon and English coins.

Saxon Gold Coins.

Mancus	- - - - -	wt. 54 gr. 6s. of their money,	—	9s. od. of ours,
Half Mancus	- - - - -	27	3s. - - - - -	4s. 6d.
Later Mancus, ora				
and Anglo Saxon Shilling	22	1s. - - - - -		3s.

Kente was the fyrste Chrystenned Kynge & coyner in Kent, Chaulyne or Ceaulynne of the Weste Saxones, Arpenwaltus of the Easte Angles, Æthelfryde of the north Humbres, And Wulferus of the Mercians. The Piece coynd by the Saxones was clepen pennyes thryce the Value of our pennyes. In Adelstanes reyn were two Coyners in Bryghstowe & one at Wyckewarre at which two places was made a peece yclepen twain penny.

Golde was not coyned tyll the tyme of Edwardus but Byzantes of Constantinople was in ure, some whereof contayned fower Markas or Mankas some two, some one & some les and more. Robert Rouse Erle of Gloucester had hys mynte at Brystowe & coyned the best monie of anie of the Barones. Henrie Secundus graunted to the Lord of Bristowe Castle the ryghte of Coynynge, & the coynynge of the Lord wente curraunte unto the Regne of Henricus the thyrde: the Coyns was onne one syde a Rampaunte Lyonne with ynne a Strooke or bende Sinyfter & on the other the arms of Brightstowe.

Eke had the Maioure lybertie of coyneynge & did coyne several coynes, manie of whyche are in mie seconde rolle of monies — Kynge Henricus sext, offred Maystre Canynge the ryghte of coynynge whych hee refused, whereupon Galfridus Ocamlus who was wyth Mayster Canynge and miefelf concerning the saide ryghte, saith, " Naie bie St. Pauls Crosse hadde I such an offe, I would coyne Lead & make ne Law, hyndrynge Hyndes takynge it." No Doubte (sayde Mayster Canynge) but you'd dyspend Heaven to gette goulde, but I dyspende Goulde to get Heaven.

This curious account is an exact transcript from the writing on vellum, which, having all the external marks of antiquity to give it the credit of an original, could not be passed by, however readers may differ in their opinions. If genuine and authentic, it proves,

1st. That besides the authorities above recited for the Caer Brito of Nennius being the city Bristow, British money was coined here with that name inscribed, though hitherto unnoticed.

2dly.

Silver Saxon Coins.

Shilling at 5d.	-	-	112 gr. 5d.	of their money,	1s. 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$	of ours.
Ditto at 4d.	-	-	90	4d.	-	11d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Thrimfa	-	-	67	3d.	-	8d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Penny or Sceata	-	-	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	above 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Helfling	-	-	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	

Copper.

Stryca two to a farthing.

2dly. That coins of Bassianus and others "have been dolven wythynn its walles," besides the quantities of coins of other Roman Emperors, which have been found so frequently very near it.

3dly. That many coins of Saxon Kings have been thrown up, on opening the ground, in the very streets of Bristol.

From all this the antiquity of the city of Bristol is fully demonstrated.

Besides the coins before-mentioned, said to be coined here in this old vellum manuscript, there were others certainly dug up in and about Bristol, mentioned before, some Roman, some Saxon: and in another manuscript, *penes me*, written in 1708, it is asserted, that "there were many old British coins dug up at Bristol." In the days of King Athelstan, says Roger Hoveden, it was decreed, there should be at Canterbury seven monetaries, viz. four of the king, two of the bishop, one of the abbot; at London eight, &c.; and at Bristow, and other boroughs, one.

In Camden's list of coins we find one of Harold, table 7, of Saxon coins, No. 37; the reverse is, "Leofwine on Brightstoll;" and in Sir Andrew Fountain's list, a penny of Harold, coined at Bristow by one Leof, a monetary: and in the list given by Snelling, wherein are the coins of the two first Williams, I find those of Bristol thus designed:

B R I C.

B R I C S T O W.

B R I G E T S T O W.

B R I G S T O W.

And the silver penny of William the Conqueror, in Dr. Ducarel's cabinet, represents that king full-faced, with two sceptres,

Villem Rex Anglorum. Reverse, Leofwine on Brici.

It is in the highest preservation, as Dr. Ducarel himself assured by letter the Author of this History. On a coin of Henry 1st. it is called Bristo, and on one of Edw. 1st. *Villa de Bristo*. In the manuscript of Rowley above, it is said, "Robert Rouse Erle of Glocestre coyned the best money of any of the barons;" and in another manuscript is mentioned a "Bristow tway-penny." The late learned President of the Society of Antiquaries, London, Dr. Milles, has communicated to the Author the following observations on the coin of this Earl Robert. "The coin of Robert, in which he is represented on horseback, was supposed by former writers to belong to Robert Duke of Normandy, the Conqueror's son, but by later critics adjudged to Robert Earl of Gloucester: it has the following inscription; X ROBERTUS IV. The cross, which generally precedes these nummular legends, is placed directly before the first letter,

letter, but in this coin there is a considerable distance, owing to the cap of Robert being pointed and breaking into the circle of the legend, separates from the R, and makes it seem to follow the V; which made Mr. Colebroke, in *Archæol.* vol. iv. read it "Rodbertus Dux:" but this would rather give it to Robert Duke of Normandy than to the other. The circumstances that seem to weigh in favour of its being a coin of Robert Earl of Gloucester are, that all the great barons then coined money,* that Robert (as Rowley says) coined the best money of any of the barons; that the reverse, which represented a cross, and some square and some round forms in the place of the letters, much resembles those of Eustace and Henry 2d.; and that this coin was actually found, with some coins of those princes, at or near Whitby, as Thoresby says, p. 350. *Antiquities of Leeds.* Thus Dean Milles; and though Dr. Ducarel in a letter to me asserts, that "there are none of the old barons' coins that have yet reached our time," there is great reason to believe this coin of Robert Earl of Gloucester to be rightly appropriated to him.

In the days of Edward 1st. 1272, there were twelve furnaces at York, and twelve at Bristol, and more in other great boroughs, for melting silver, in order for hammering and stamping perfect monies; which continued through all the reigns, till about 1663. His coin is circumscribed with the name of the place of coinage, as *Villa Bristollia*, which is not rare. In Henry the sixth's time, there was a mint in Bristol for coining silver; the place in Peter-street, near the Castle, (now the Hospital for the city poor) still retaining the name of the Mint; which coining in Henry the sixth's time is alluded to in Rowley's manuscripts, when Mr. Canynge had the offer of the right of coining.

In 42 Henry 8th. were coined in Bristol testoons, groats, half groats, and pennies, with *Civitas Bristollia* on the reverse: and 1 Edw. 6th. there was a mint at Bristol.

The following coins of several other kings bear the name of Bristol upon them. — The names of 150 coiners appear on the pennies of William the 1st and 2d, struck at London, York, Winchester, Norwich, Exon, Bristow, &c.

Henry 1st or 2d. Penny — a full face crowned, in the right hand a sceptre fleury, in the left a mullet of five points. — Rev. *Geraud on Bristow.*

F

Edw.

* As proofs, I quote the following from Roger Hoveden, A. 1149. Hen. Dux Normannorum fecit novam monetam quam vocabant monetam Ducis, & non tantum ipse sed omnes potentes tam episcopi quam comites & barones suam faciebant monetam. — And I find the following in William Newbrigenfis, b. i. ch. 22. "Domini castellorum in Anglia habebant singuli percussuram proprii numismatis & potestatem regio more subditis dicendi juris."

Edw. 1st. Penny — Rev. *Villa Bristolie* 22 gr. $\frac{1}{2}$.

Halfpenny — Rev. *Villa Bristolie* 11.

Edw. 4th. Gold Angel — *Ed. Di. Gr. &c.* The king in a ship with a square flag at the stern, on which is the initial E. — on the other side a full blown rose, under which is the letter B. for Bristol, the place of coinage; weight 79 gr.

Edw. 4th. Groat — *Di Gra. Rex Angl. et Franc.* on the breast B. marked on both sides with a coronet. Rev. *Villa Bristol.*

Edw. 4th. Two-pence — *Di Grat. &c.* Rev. *Villa Bristol.*

Hen. 8th, 1545. Testoons, Groats, Half Groats, and Pennies — with *Civitas Bristolica.*

Edw. 6th. Penny — *D. G. Rosa sine spina.* Rev. *Civitas Bristolica.*

Gul. 3d. Half Crown — *Magn Britt. &c.* 1696, under the inscription a B. struck at Bristol in the mint there. There were now five country mints erected for coining base money and silver into current milled money. There was brought into Bristol of hammered money and wrought plate as much as made in weight 146,977 oz. in order to be coined there.

There has been dug up when the bridge was taken down and rebuilt, a brass coin with a pope's head on one side, and on the other a bridge with four arches, as big as half a crown — *Sixtus IIII. pont. Max. sacri cultor*; on the reverse just over a figure of a four arch bridge, *Cura rerum publicarum.* — And another of the size of a large shilling, with a Queen crowned, perhaps for the Virgin Mary, sitting on a throne with a scepter in the right hand, with *Ave Maria Gratia plena* round; and on the reverse, a cross fleury with a quaterfoil in its center within a border, with a double line in shape of a quaterfoil, inscribed on the outside edge also with *Ave Maria Gratia plena.*

Whether these had any reference to the building of Bristol Bridge of four arches, or to any other, is left to farther enquiry. It seems to confirm the opinion, of the abbots and religious coining money, called Abby-money in the manuscripts of Rowley.

While upon this subject of coinage, it may not be improper to add, that it appears the mayor and aldermen of Bristol were authorised, by the privy council, to strike farthing tokens, in 1594: but the striking of these tokens was an abuse, not a release from the royal authority. And in Queen Elizabeth's days the magistrates of the cities of Bristol, Oxford, and many shopkeepers, made tokens of lead and brass without any authority, which they often refused to exchange: an order was sent, dated May 12, 1594, to the mayor and aldermen of Bristol, from the lords of the council, to call in all tokens struck in that

that city, and that no private trader should make any without licence from the mayor. In 1653, there was a copper coinage of halfpence and farthings by private persons till 1672, when the king's copper coin took place. One side of the coin expressed the name of the place or city, and value of the piece; and the other, the arms of the city; if of private persons or merchants, their name and trade. Bristol farthings are still common to be met with, neatly executed. On one side, the arms of the city; on the other, *a Bristol farthing* inscribed, and dated 1562, 1594.

As coins dug out of the ground have been ever regarded as proofs of the antiquity of a place, so have monumental stones with inscriptions. If any credit is to be given to old parchments with drawings of such monumental stones, with the account of the inscriptions thereon preserved, such can be produced with the name of Rowlie affixed to them, as copied from Turgot. Some are said "to be dolven in Brystowe, or wythynne short compass of its walles: one had "this inscribed, *Cynwellinus & Wulferus Mercia*, & was dolven in the house of the "Whyte Friars, ii on St. Mychael's-hyll, iii on Baldwynne's-hyll, iv in "Hie-lane, and the reste in several hylles & lanes, but some wythyn the "walls of Baldwyn and Radcleve. One has thys: *Hic jacet Coenred Episcop.* "Selfeya, A. D. DCCCCX.: another, *Tellius Sanctus Episcop. Brightstow mort.* "xxvii Maii, DCXXXII. This was the Coffynne of Saint Tellius, preeste of "Romannus, yclepen the learned Byshop of Roiachester, who dyed at "Brightstowe. Several other stones wyth inscriptions and most auntiaunte "Monuments were preserved in the Abbie of Westburie by Mr. Canynge.— "One sheweth Caër Brito fulle playne, and was dolven on St. Michael's-hyll. "Another more curyouse, where Caër Brito may be sene, was dolven on St. "Marie's-hyll. There were drawings of other stones dug up at Brigstowe "formerly; some with Saxon swòrds or seaxes, and Danish battle axes, but "much worn out."

To this account of coins and coinage, it may not be improper to add the following account, copied from an old manuscript in my possession, of those scarce coins, monuments, and other valuable pieces of antiquity, said once to have adorned the cabinet of a very wealthy and ingenious merchant of Bristol, the worthy Mr. Canynge; and to have been chiefly collected by Thomas Rowley, priest, of the fifteenth century, which he calls his *Yellow Roll*, and entitules it,

" England's Glorie revyved in Maystre Canynge, beyng some Accounte
 " of hys Cabynet of Auntyaunte Monumentes."

" To prayse thys Auntyaunte Repofytorie maie not bee fo fyttynge yn me, Seeynge I gotten itte moſte; but I amme almoſte the onlie Manne acquainted wyth alle of ytte: ande almoſte ytte is the moſt precyouse performauce in Englande. The fyrſt thyng at youre Entrance is a Stonen Bedde,* whyche was manie yeers kepte in Towre Errys, and belonged to Erle Bythryck. Rounde the Cabynette are Coynes on greete Shelfes fetyvelie payncted. The Coynes are of Greece, Venyce, Rome, Fraunce, ande Englande, from the Daies of Julyus Cæſar to thys preſent, conſyſtyng of Denarii, Penys, Ores, Mancas, Byzantynes, Holly Land Moneie, of whych Penys, Denarii ande Twapenyſes there are coyned ynne Bryſtoe fourtie & nyne of dyffarante Sortes; Barons' Moneie, Citie Monie, Abbye Monie to beſyde the coynes and moneie would fylle a redde Rolle.† Goe wee thenne to the oder thynges.

The Greete Ledger‡ is a Gemme wordie the Crowne of a Kynge: itte contayneth the Workes of Turgotte, a Saxonne Monke, as followes. Battle of Haſtyng, ynne Anglo-Saxonne, donne moe playne bie mee for Mayſtre Canynge.§ Hyſtorie of Bryghſtowe, || inne Saxonnes Latynne, tranſlated for Mr. C. bie mee. Auntyaunte Coynes, with the Hyſtorie of the firſt Coynynge bie the Saxonnes, done from Saxonne into Englyſhe. Hyſtorie of St. — Church of Durham. Alle theſe ynne Latynne. Lyfe of Byghtrycus, Kynge of the Weſt Saxonnes, and Annales from hym to Byghthrycus the Erle. Alle thye ynne Englyſhe. — Neere is mie unworthie Rolles, beeynge a fynyſhing of Turgotte** to the Reygne of K. Edward the —. My Volume of

* That ſuch a bed, or rather bedſtead, was in being for years at the houſe, in Redcliff-ſtreet, where Mr. Canynge dwelt, has been affirmed by an old inhabitant of that houſe.

† From this repository then were derived the coins, mentioned in p. 38. in the little eſſay on coining.

‡ This ſeems to be a different book from thoſe Ledger-Books named in the will of Mr. Canynge, which the late Dean Milles juſtly ſuppoſed to be Service-Books for the uſe of the chaplains. — This was a Family-record Book, in which they entered any thing curious or uſeful to be preſerved, and in which they read for their entertainment: moſt families formerly had ſuch for their amuſement.

§ A poem has been publiſhed under this name. See Rowley's Poems, by Dean Milles, p. 40, 97. Whether the whole was faithfully tranſcribed by Chatterton, or altered by him, may admit of a doubt. We ſee here there was ſuch a poem extant.

|| This is the ſubject of the purple roll, and may be ſeen faithfully copied, page 32 of this Hiſtory.

** This is wanting. It is remarkable, he writes King Edward the —, without mentioning

of Verses,* wyth Letters to and from John Lydgate. My owne Hyfstorye of Moneies, Collectyon of Monymentes,† &c. Lykewyse the verie Lettre sente bie the Lordes Rychard of Yorke, Warwyck, & Sarysburye, to Kynge Henrie.‡ Onne one Corner yn the Cabynet is a Syghte most terryble, beeynge Instrumentes of Warre, raunged in fuche Arraie that in the Lyghte of the Sunne, or the comeynge of a candle, ytte shynethe moste marvellouse to behoulde. Ytte ys of Bryttysh Swordes and Sheeldes, whych prove the Auntiquitye of Armoureye, beeynge marqué some wyth an Ivie Leefe, some wyth an Oke Leefe, some wyth a Hare or Hounde, and such lyke. Roman Speeres and Bucklers, lykewyse Blazonede, but all of the same Charge. Saxonne Swordes or Seaxes ande Sheeldes, blazoned wyth a Crosse patec. Danysh Battle Axes and Sheeldes, blazoned wyth a Rafen. The Armour and laste Testamente of Roberte Rouse, Consul of Gloucester.§ The Gawntlette of Roberte, Sonne of Wyllyam the Conquerour, whych hee lefte behynde hym in Bryfstone Castle. Syrre Charles Bawdwyne a Fulforde, commonlie cleped Baudynne Fullforde, his Bonde toe the Kynge Henrye to take the Erle of Warwyke's Lyfe or lose hys hede, whych he dyd not perfourme, butte losse his heede to Kynge Edward. || Thus muche for the Cabynette."

Various will be the opinions held of these manuscript accounts, respecting their authenticity; they may probably be called in question as much as the poems have been, published under the name of Rowley. It might however be deemed unfair in an Historian to have concealed what the public have a right to canvas, approve or reject as they may judge right. — They are here faithfully transcribed and communicated; and are submitted to the judgement of the candid and ingenuous reader, either to receive or reject them. The Author takes it not upon himself to determine; but pays that deference to the judgement of every reader of abilities and candour, as to leave him to form an opinion of it without interposing his own. Whatever that be, the external evidence of the genuineness of these manuscripts was such, as fully to authorize

him as King Edward the 4th, being a zealous Lancastrian, as appears from other passages in his Letters, and so not acknowledging Edw. 4th. as king.

* This is the poem on Ella, and others not particularly noted.

† Some of these are probably those mentioned before, p. 38, 43.

‡ That such a letter was sent, our chronicles bear witness.

§ What a value would be now set on these British shields and swords, and Roman spears and bucklers? What an addition even to the British Museum, especially the armour of Robert Rouse, the valiant champion of his day? And what would be the price now of the gauntlet and last testament of Robert, the Conqueror's son?

|| See this mentioned in Stowe's Chronicle, under the year 1461.

authorize him to give them to the public, whatever shall be infer'd from the internal evidence. The late learned Dean Milles has already laid before the public in his elegant edition of Rowley's poems with notes, every thing that tends to illustrate his subject and develop this intricate and obscure affair, and place it before the reader in a proper light, and striking point of view, to all which I refer; and if the reader adds to the evidence produced by him, what is here advanced from the yellow and purple roll, and from other original parchment manuscripts under the name of Rowley to be now published in this work, he will then be able to form a just opinion and judgement of this long contested subject, and have the whole evidence before him to direct him in his determination: but "adhuc sub Judice Lis est." Some say, the truth may be found not to be with one but betwixt the two contending parties; but as every one will form an opinion of his own in all such disputes, who shall be judge? Each must after weighing all the evidence judge for himself, which he will now be the better enabled to do, from what has been advanced and will yet occur in the course of this work.

But whatever credit these old manuscripts, and ancient accounts of coins and monumental stones relating to Bristol, demand from the judicious and candid reader; yet not only in the Saxon but also in the Norman times, and later writings we shall find Bristol making a still more conspicuous figure in the history and indubitable records of those days.

In the time of W. 1, it appears from records that in that reign the inhabitants of Bristol were stiled burgeses, when the survey of the kingdom called * Dooms-Day was made and the place itself consequently a Borough; by which is meant a town with limited boundaries, walled or not, claiming by prescription or by grant the privilege of choosing its own magistrates or governors, for the better regulation of trade or morals under protection of the Lord of the fee, from the Saxon *Beorghan* to fence, keep in safety &c. And it is granted the ancient burgh and city differed little or nothing in signification. And the honourable station it then filled in this kingdom, appears from its being rated in Domesday-book higher than any city, or town in England, except London, York and Winchester. Robert the rhyming Monk of Gloucester reckons Bristoe among the first and chief towns in this land:

"The furste lordes and maistres that yn yis londe wer,

"And the chyffe tounes furste they lete arer,

"London & Everwyk, Lyncolne & Leycestre

"Cocestre & Canterbyre, Bristoe & Worcestre."

About

* "Bertune and Bristow paid to the King 110 marks of silver and the burgeses returned that Bishop G. had 33 marks and one mark of gold."

About the conquest say some, were built divers towns to guard the frontiers of Wales, Bristol, Gloucester, Worcester, Shrewsbury and Chester; these were garrison towns of the Marches of Wales: Or rather were appointed such from their situation, though built long before. The Lords Marches were created to watch and ward that country, and were to be always ready to march against the Welsh.

When Bristol was exempt from the Marches of Wales, which was a great trouble and expence to the town, will appear in the annals.

In 1st year of W. 2, it is certain, that Godfrey the Bishop of Constance and his nephew the Earl of Northumberland, held the castle of Bristol then an ancient most strong and impregnable fortress. * The names of many who were governors of Bristol and its castle in the Saxon times have been transmitted down to us, so as to put its antiquity quite out of question.

The first chief magistrate or governor of Bristol was called † *prepositus de Bristou*, under the custos or constable of the castle who held it under the Saxon Earls of Gloster; and in Edward the Confessor's time.

In the charter of King John, the chief officer indeed is mentioned in the translation under the name of a *provost* which answers to *prepositor*.

It thus appears that Bristol had its magistrates and officers or governors of its own long before it was erected into a mayor town or corporate body. In the year 1066, Harding ‡ (whose name now is in the inscription over the gate way in College Green) the ancestor of the Berkeley family, being a magistrate and rich merchant of Bristol, held Wheatenhurst in the hundred of Whitston Gloucestershire in morgage of Earl Britrick. He is called mayor and governor of Bristol, and Leland says " he removed the fraternity of Calendars, (a society in Bristol existing before the conquest) to the church of All-Hallows, which before were at Christ Church, and " that the schools then ordained by these Calendars, for the conversion of the Jews in Bristowe was

* See chapt. of the castle below, and annals for that year.

† Vid. Doomday-book 75, in Gloucester, " In Sineshovede hund. Rogerius fil. Rad. ten. " manerium quod tenuit Seruinus p'positus de Bristou de Rege E. &c." Terra Rogerii filii Rad. Nōie Clifstone In Sineshovede Hund. Rogerius fi. Rad. ten. unum Mareruim q'd telnuit Seruinus p'positus de Bristou de rege E. & poterat ire cum hac tea quo volebat. nec aliquam firmam inde dabat — Ibi iii hidæ. In d'nio s't iii Car. & vi Vill. & vi bord. cum ii Car. Ibi iii Servi & viii ac. p'ti. Valet. c Solid. Modo lx solid. Supposed to relate to the tithings of Almondsbury — Rudder's Glocest. p. 223.

This Serwin being prepositor of Bristou in the time of K. Edward the Confessor, shews the chief officer there to have that title, which name continued in Henry 3ds. time, when there were a mayor and two prepositors.

‡ Atkins Gloucestershire, p. 261.

was put into the order of the Calendars and the Mayor;"* which shews a governor then presided here even under the name and office of a Mayor long before any lists of mayors we have at present do begin.

About the time of the conquest Robert Fitzhaymon held the honor of Gloucester of which Bristol was a part, and he then received the rents or tythes, (*Decimas de Exitibus Bristolliaë*) as paid to the Lord of Gloucester then and before, and he gave it to the Abby of Tewksbury which he founded. Henry 2, in 1144 was educated four years in learning at Bristol, as will appear below in the chapters on the cathedral and castle. In the reign of King John one Englard de Cygoïn held the ferm (*firmam*) of Bristo for the account (*compotum*) or fine of 145*l.* which Richard the burgeses paid for him.

In † 1177, 23 Henry 2, the burgeses of Bristou render an account of eighty marks for Sturmis the usurer: he freed it in the treasury and was quit. Jordan the dapifer of the Earl of Gloucester owed fifty marks for default. *Mag. Rotul 3 Glost.*

In the 30 year of Henry 2, the men of Bristou paid a fine of 50*l.* to have respite and not to be impleaded without the walls of their town, till the King's return into England.

In 1196, 7 Richard 1, a tallage or tax was laid by William Bishop of Hereford, Hugh Bardolph and others the King's Justices upon the King's manors and burghs. The burgeses of Bristol paid 200 marks (133*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*) and for the fair of Bristol 10 marks (6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*)

And in 1225, 9 Henry 3, the burgeses of Bristol accounted to the King for 245*l.* the ferm of their town, the King having demised the town to them at that ferm, so that they were to answer for two parts of that ferm at the feast of St. Michael, and for the rest at the feast of St. Hillary, saving to the King for use of the Constable of the castle and his family residing therein the prizage of beer, as much as they shall have need of; so that the burgeses have the remainder: and saving to the King the Bailiwick (*Baillia*) of the Berton of Bristol (*Barton Regis*) and the Chace of Brul of Keinsham and of the Wood of Furches, which the King kept in his own hand.

In 1201, 12 of King John there was a treasury at Bristol, mentioned in Maddox history of the Exchequer, p. 421 c. 2. x. and about that time the towns paid an aid for the King's passage into Ireland: ‡ "the burgeses of Gloucester

* Leland, V. vii. 2 Ed. p. 88 — vid. Little red book of Bristol, manuscript in Chamber of Bristol, p. 88. and in All Saints parish. the chap. below.

† Vid. Maddox history of Exchequer, 143. 228. 486. & alibi.

‡ *Auxilium Villarum ad passagium Hyberniz, Burgenfes Gloucestriz reddunt compotum de 500 marcis de eodem: Homines de Bristou reddunt compotum de 1000 marcis de eodem: Homines de redclive reddunt compotum de 1000 marcis de eodem &c. Madd —.*

“ cester render an account (compotum) of 500 marks for the fame, the men of
 “ Bristow 1000 marks for the fame, the men of Redeclive 1000 marks for the
 “ fame. In the treasury were 237l. 6s. 8d. and Englard de Cigoni had 225
 “ marks to put into the treasury of the king at Bristow. The men of the
 “ templars of Redeclive render account of 500 marks for the fame.”

King John, when Earl of Moreton only, by marriage with a daughter of William Earl of Gloucester, held the town of Bristol as part of that earldom; and after he came to be king, Bristol became vested in the crown, and the kings of England ever after received a certain annual sum for the ferm of the town, as the earls of Gloucester did before; Bristol, as mentioned before, being part of that earldom, and a demefne of it.

Thus Hugh Bardolph (Magn. Rot. 31st Henry 2d.) renders an account (among other things belonging to the Earl of Gloucester's lands,) of 119l. 7s. 5d. of the rent of Bristow, and of the mills, and of the fairs, and for having a house at Bristow, 3l. 0s. 10d. where the king's rents are received, and for mending the tower of Bristow, and for hiring carpenters, and for stones for the mills, and for repairing the houses in the manors, 13l. 0s. 6d.

So populous, flourishing, and rich was Bristol in Henry 2d's. time, that he greatly favoured it with his bounty and royal grants, and gave it charters, and also a grant* of the city of Dublin (then called Devlin) in Ireland to inhabit, possess, and enjoy; and a colony from Bristol was sent thither for that purpose, who were to have the same privileges and free customs they held in Bristol.

In 1305, King Edward 1st. taking a taillage of all towns and cities corporate in England, Bristol gave him 400l. for a fine.

And in the 45th year of Edward 3d. Rot. 40. by a patent letter of his great seal he demised the town of Bristol to Walter de Derby and Henry Derneford for one year, they rendring and paying the sums of money reserved in the demise. The profits of the town consisted in houses, shops, cottages, sheds, gardens, mills, pools, tyne of the castle, rents landgable, tolls, pleas of court, customs of the fair and market, and other rights belonging to them; they held it in the same manner as the mayor and commonalty of Bristol held the same of the grant of late Queen Philippa, the garden below the castle and the garden towards the Berton only being excepted; reserving all royal liberties in the said town, and others of old belonging to the castle of Bristol; reserving

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also

* A copy of it is extant in Dr. Leland's History of Ireland. Also in Camden is the following note: “ An English colony was transplanted from Bristol hither (Dublin) by King Henry the second, giving them this city (which perhaps at that time was drained of inhabitants,) in these words, “ with all the liberties and free customs which those of Bristol enjoyed.” From that time it flourished more and more, &c.”

also (*multura bladi*) a fine of corn to the constable of the castle, for his own table and his family's: and (*Garneſtura in caſtro predicto ad molendina ejusdem Villæ quieta de Theolonio inde præſtando*) &c. They were to pay beſides for that year 100l. They were to have liberty to dig the king's ground; to mend the mill-ponds, when out of repair; and to pay the conſtable of the caſtle 20l. for that year for his wages for keeping the caſtle, and every day 2d. for the wages of the porter, and 3d. a day for two watchmen, and an halfpenny every night for their wages, and to pay their vail week after week, or every quarter, as the conſtable would have it: and to pay for the year to the abbot of Tewksbury 14l. 10s. for the tenths of the town; and to the prior of St. James 60s. of annual rent for the mill; and to the *cuſtos maritimus* (or water-bailiff) 1l. 6s. 8d. (*pro robâ ſuâ*) and to the keeper of the foreſt of Kingſwood every day 7½d. and to bear for the king all other burdens, expences, dues of charity and cuſtoms, ſo that a whole 100l. remain to the king: and to keep up and repair all houſes, gardens, mills, &c. above-mentioned, belonging to the ſaid town in the ſame good order they receive them.

When the ſame King Edward 3d. ann. r. 47, made Briſtol a county of itſelf, and granted the city ſeveral franchiſes, it was "provided they do "anſwer to the king yearly for his fermes and other dues."

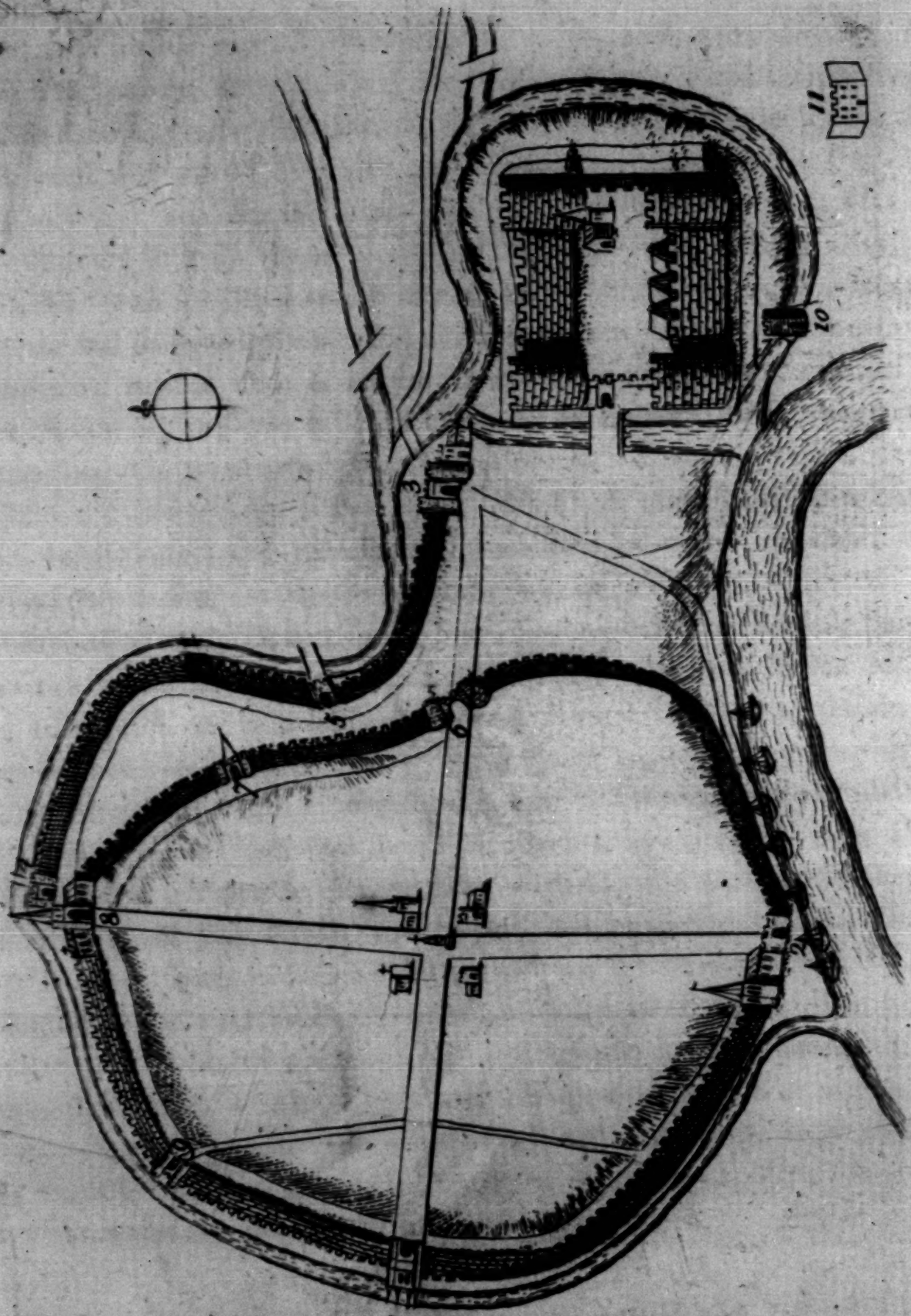
In the 5th year of Edward 4th. John Cogan, ſheriff of Briſtol, paid 102l. 15s. 6d. charged on the mayor and commonalty of Briſtol, for the fee farm of the king's town, to Elizabeth conſort of King Edward 4th. ſettled on the queen for her life.

In the great roll, 29th Henry 6th. Hugh Withiford, mayor of Briſtol, and commonalty of the ſame, and their ſucceſſors, ſtood charged to the king with 102l. 15s. 6d. per annum, for the town of Briſtol and the ſuburbs thereof, the ditches, gates, fleſh ſhambles, &c. demiſed to them for twenty years, which were ſettled on Queen Margaret by the king for the term of her life.

But the city was releaſed and exonerated from payment of theſe and other fee farm rents charged thereon, by the corporation purchaſing them of the crown, in the times of Charles 1ſt. and 2d. as will hereafter be made appear.

The annals of the city will alſo hereafter contain more explicit accounts, early records, and charters of Briſtol, from which may be deduced a full relation of its ancient ſtate and public tranſactions.





C H A P. III.

A PLAN and DESCRIPTION of BRISTOL, in its Early and Middle State.

IN tracing back the antiquity of the city many things have necessarily occurred already in the course of that inquiry, describing the first and early state of it, which shall now be farther delineated as well as can be collected from authentic records and manuscripts, from old plans, and from considering the first scite and ground plot of the town, and comparing it with any vestiges and marks that still remain.

About a mile from the Roman camp at Clifton or station Abone, under the hills and within its view was the British town (Caer Brito) first laid out at the conflux of the two rivers Avon and Frome, with which it had the advantage of being surrounded except on the northern part, where the castle was afterwards erected. The ground on which the city was built rises each way to the center, forming a pleasant hill. Having pitched upon this commodious station they divided it into four streets, walling it round after the banks of the rivers for its greater security and defence, placing a gate at the end of each street; and being converted to the Christian faith, erecting churches there, and a cross in the center where the streets intersected each other, and formed a cross an emblem of their Christian profession. Thus a gate, and a church or chapple terminated each of the four streets, and four churches surrounded the cross at the center. No. 1, Baldwin's afterwards Leonard's gate. No. 2, St. Nicholas gate. No. 3, Elle gate, or that next the castle since rebuilt and called New gate. No. 4, Frome gate, or the Water-gate. No. 5, Pithay, or Aylward's gate. No. 6, Defence gate. No. 7, Tower gate. No. 8, St. John's gate. No. 9, St. Giles's gate. No. 10, Sally-port of the castle. No. 11, Godfrey's lodge.

A wall embattled on the top, joined and inclosed the whole, though as related in Turgott's manuscript account, "the walls and gates suffered alteration," yet the shape and scite of the city in general must have remained the same and still continues so to this day.

The gradual declivity from the center on all sides, contributes greatly to its being neat and cleanly, every shower washing down the dirt into the subjacent rivers, besides affording afterwards the advantage of making those large gouts so convenient to this day; through which, by means of the returning tide, the filth of the city is disembogued and daily ebbd away into the Severn sea twice in twenty-four hours. The river Froom, with which it is chiefly moted, arises at Dodington and Rangeworthy not far from Tetbury in Gloucestershire, and running through Acton there called Loden, and Hambrook to Stoke, where it meets a spring from Lord Bottetourt's park and takes the name of Froom, and so to Stapleton and close under the north walls of the city, passes Froom-bridge; and, before the present quay was dug, held on its course * through the fish market and Baldwin-street, built on its banks, to St. Nicholas port, along under the walls of the town, and there it emptied itself into the Avon in full current; where was the confluence of the two rivers: it drove a mill erected for the use of the town called Baldwin's cross-mill, just before its discharge into the Avon. At Blind-steps there seems to have been of old a slip or passage leading to this mill, of which there are some traces remaining still in a cellar at the corner of Baldwin-street; where are three old strong arches on each side of it now to be seen, being the thoroughs through which the water of the Froom then flowed, that drove the wheels, the mill-house being erected over them. This course of the Froom is not only proved by manuscript and authentic records, but by a whole boat having been of late years found in digging the foundation for a house in Baldwin-street, and by other remains of shipping and naval stores dug up there formerly. Nicholas-street being the bounds of the old city on this side, the thick old city-wall may be seen there in many places at this day, as it may also in Leonard's-lane, embattled still at the top next Giles's-gate; — where being continued on to St. John's-gate along Bell-lane, in which once was a church dedicated to St. Lawrence, it joined the Tower-wall in Tower-lane, which with a strong gate in its middle and another at its upper end at the top of the Pithay, extended into Wine-street, called also Wynch-street; where at Defence-lane it joined the city-wall on the banks of the Avon, which was fortified with a wall round to St. Nicholas gate; — it was called Defence-lane, or Defence-street, in all old deeds, (and since

* See Annals for the year 1247. — also the plate. — There is in a manuscript in the Chamber of Bristol called Rycart's Calendar, a coloured drawing or view of the city about 1470 as described above, the streets and houses laid out in form of a cross with a gate and church at each end, the High-cross in the center, and four churches, and the river running round it.

since Dolphin-lane, from the Dolphin-inn once there) as a place of defence or barrier for the city on that side, and securing it against any attempts or insurrection of the soldiers of the castle, as described by William Worcester, p. 236. This was the internal wall of the city, added for the greater strength and security; the external on this side being constructed on the very bank of the From, from From-gate to Pithay-gate and Newgate, there joining the castle.

On the north-east side it was moted with a little arm of the From by a channel made by hand quite round till it met the Avon, which skirted the city on the south side, where the wall was continued quite round the castle; thus completing the fortification of the city. The double wall that was built at Tower-lane, and on the banks of the From river, is a proof of the antiquity of the place, and of its being augmented from time to time. The old city is said to have been fortified with that inner wall, by Geoffry Bishop of Constance; or it was by him repaired and enlarged, when he, raising a rebellion against William Rufus, chose it for the seat of war, as will hereafter be more particularly mentioned in the chapter on the castle.

Under the wall above described on the south side ran the river Avon, (so called from Abone, the antient British word for a river,) which parts Somersetshire* from Gloucestershire; and during the Saxon heptarchy, Bristol was reckoned in these two counties or kingdoms: in the former were the Mercians seated; in the latter, or Redcliff side, the West Saxons: and it was by late writers placed by some in one, by some in the other county. This river Avon runs through Wiltshire, rising near Tetbury in Gloucestershire, at Kemble and Luckington in two streams, which join at Malmesbury in one, and pass through Chippenham, Lacock,† Melksham, Bradford, down to Bath and Bristol; and receiving a branch of the From at the Castle, and the whole river From itself formerly near Nicholas-port but now at the Quay, glides on in a winding course by Redcliff till it passes the city and the rocks of St. Vincent below it, which seem as if cleft
in

* Bristol is ever mentioned in the old Parliament rolls to be in Somersetshire, as Redcliff really was, and in the West Saxon kingdom; — a proof that Redcliff was part of the antient Caer Brito, and not of late rise: though some manuscripts say, William Earl of Gloucester annexed Redcliff to Bristol.

† A nunnery there, built by Ela Countess of Salisbury, in Snailmead, now the seat of John Talbot, Esq. Leland says, "silver money was dug up there in a field called Silver-feld." It was on the Roman road, called by Antonine Verlucio, and by Richard of Cirencester. There are now the remains of a nunnery, most complete of any in England. Ela was buried 1300, in the church of Osney; she founded a chapel at Rewly, nigh Oxford, where the foundation stone, in 1705, was dug up with the name of Ela upon it, and is preserved by Hearn, in the Bodleian Library. Vid. Leland, Itin. p. 94, v. 2.

in a stupendous manner to let it through, and about seven miles below falls into Kingroad, or the Severn sea. Boats of burden used of old to carry goods from Bristol to Bath, until the river was obstructed by wears, mills, &c. as appears by Claus. 4 Edw. 1. p. 1, m. 4, who ordered the removal of them; but it was again made navigable in the year 1727: see annals for that year.— And might also, in the opinion of many, be let into the Isis at Cricklade by cutting a new channel for a few miles, and thereby a navigation be effected betwixt the first and second city in the kingdom, London and Bristol, which was opposed in 1656 by the corporation, as to the prejudice of the city.— Some steps have of late been taken, by the merchants of Bristol, towards this great work, by a scheme for extending the navigation from Bath to Chippenham; of which see annals for the year 1767. The tide in the river Avon flows up as high almost as to Cainsham, or near four miles; but after that the barges go against the stream, and are drawn along by men, which renders the passage somewhat tedious. Bath is by this means supplied with timber, deals, &c. for building, wine, cyder, iron, and all bulky goods, from Bristol at a small expence. Leland well describes the rise and course of the Avon, Itin. vol. ii. f. 26, and f. 31, and “ enumerates the bridges it passes through from
 “ Malmesbury, viz. Christine-Malford-bridge, five miles lower; Caifway-bridge,
 “ two miles lower; Chippenham, a right fair bridge, about a mile lower; the
 “ town on the right ripe towards London, Rhe-bridge, (in the parish of La-
 “ cock,) one mile and a half lower; Lacock-bridge, one mile and a half
 “ lower; Staverton-bridge, four miles lower; Bradford-bridge, two miles
 “ lower; Bath-bridge, of five fair arches, five miles lower; Bristow-bridge,
 “ ten miles lower. At two miles above Bristow-bridge was a Commune Tra-
 “ jectus by bote, where was a chapel of St. Ann, and here was great pilgrim-
 “ age to St. Ann.”—It is in the parish of Brislington, and some old arches remain of the chapel still to be seen.

Bristol, being so commodiously situated at the confluence of two such rivers as the Avon and the Frome, could not fail of being supplied with water, that necessary of human life; but had also the advantage of being moted round, for its greater security by their united streams, which with the embattled walls and castle must have rendered it a very defensible city against the enemy in those early times, especially as the whole ground plot was on a hill.

In these walls, when “ they suffered alteration,” were, besides the four gates, others added. The old gates had a groove in the sides from the top to the bottom, in which a portcullis (i. e. a falling door, or wooden frame, shod with iron, shaped like a harrow,) was let down for the better defence of the city.

city. These gates are all enumerated and described by Leland. "Newgate
 " (as methynkyethe) is in the utar waulle by the castle, and a chapelle over
 " itte: itte is the pryson of the city. St. John's-gate, a churche on eche
 " syde of it; St. John's churche, it is harde on the north side of it, and there
 " be Cryptæ. St. Giles's-gate be the south-west of the Key, where Frome
 " rennithe. St. Leonarde's-gate, and a paroche church over it. St. Nicolas-
 " gate, where is a churche cum cryptis. These be the inner gates of the
 " oulde towne cis Sabrinam, as the towne standithe in dextra ripa defluentis
 " Avonæ."

Besides these walls and gates, there were others called by Leland the externa or secunda mænia urbis. The outward wall of the city seems to have run in a line from Froom-gate, after the river Froom was turned into the Key, straight along the Key, where was a tower opposite the Drawbridge, to Marsh-gate, so round by King-street to the Back-gate in Back-street, the wall there joining the Avon. In making the new street 1771 from Corn-street to the Key, by a subscription of 8000l. of which the corporation gave 2000l. they found in digging the ground a gout, the old arched gout, once the bed of the river Froom, next St. Leonard's church; and at the bottom of Clare-street, a wall five feet and a half thick next the Key, once the city wall here. These walls were built when the city enlarged its boundaries, ranging beyond its former limits. Thus Leland: "In the uttar (outer) walles Marsh-gate e regione
 " Avonæ." Back-gate is also intended, but through a flaw in Leland's manuscript is not named there. On the Redcliff side he says accurately enough, "In the waulle ultra pontem & Avonam be two gates, Raddeclyffe-gate and
 " Temple-gate, and a greate tower called Tower-Harrys, at the very ende of
 " the waulle in ipsa ripâ Avonæ." But the present Temple-gate is of a beautiful and neat modern structure; as was Redcliff, now taken down. Leland says of the wall, "that certain Bochers made a fayre peace of this waull, and it
 " is the highest and strongest of all the towne waulles."

This infular situation of the city obliged them to erect several bridges to the gates that led out of it. Froom-gate of old was a grand and noble structure, consisting of two arched ways, adorned with the heads of Brightrick and Robert Earl of Glocester; and the bridge still remains, constructed of two solid Gothic arches, with strong and thick piers, as the custom then was. — Through Elle-gate, now Newgate, was the common high road into Glocestershire; this gate, though of one opening or passage only, seems to consist of four arches, turned one within the other at different times, which shews its antiquity: and had a figure in stone on each side; one, holding in his hand a
 kind

kind of model of a castle-like building, represents Robert Earl of Gloucester, the repairer and enlarger of the castle; the other, having a cup with a cover or chalice in his hand, was for Godfry Bishop of Constance, who built some of the walls, and fortified the castle, in the second year of K. W. 2d. — Below this gate was also a bridge, still remaining, by which we pass over a branch of the From; and another just below it, over the river From itself: through the first the Castle-mills are supplied with water, and the last leads us into the parish of St. James or Merchant-street. Farther on the Wear is another, called by the name of Ell-bridge* or of Wear-bridge, (mentioned by Leland,) "harde by the northe-east parte of the castle of Bristowe;" he adds, "there brekythe an arme out of Frome, a but-shot above Werebrydge, and "renithe thwrghe a stone bridge of one greate arche; and there at Newgate "the other parte of Frome, reninge from Werebridge, cummithe undar another stone, and servinge the mille hard withote Newgate, metithe with the "other arme."

There must also have been a bridge at Baldwin's (or Leonard's) gate over the From, when it ran through Baldwin's-street its ancient course, though it is long since destroyed and the river itself there filled up since the turning of the course of the From into the Quay.

At Nicholas-gate, of old called Warburghs, there was first a ferry to St. Thomas slip on the opposite shore or Avon's bank, till a bridge was afterwards constructed there, of which hereafter in the annals: at † Pithay-gate, Needlefs-gate, and at Bridewell, once called Monks bridge, (formerly a place of great strength, fortified with bulwarks and a tower, which give name to Tower-lane in its neighbourhood) there were afterwards and still remain bridges for the better communication with other places.

From the description already given it appears how well the old town was situated and secured on all sides, with every kind of defence by nature as well as Art. By the neighbouring hilly ground of St. Austin, St. Brandon-hill, ‡ St. Michael's and Kingsdown hills, with the river From running in

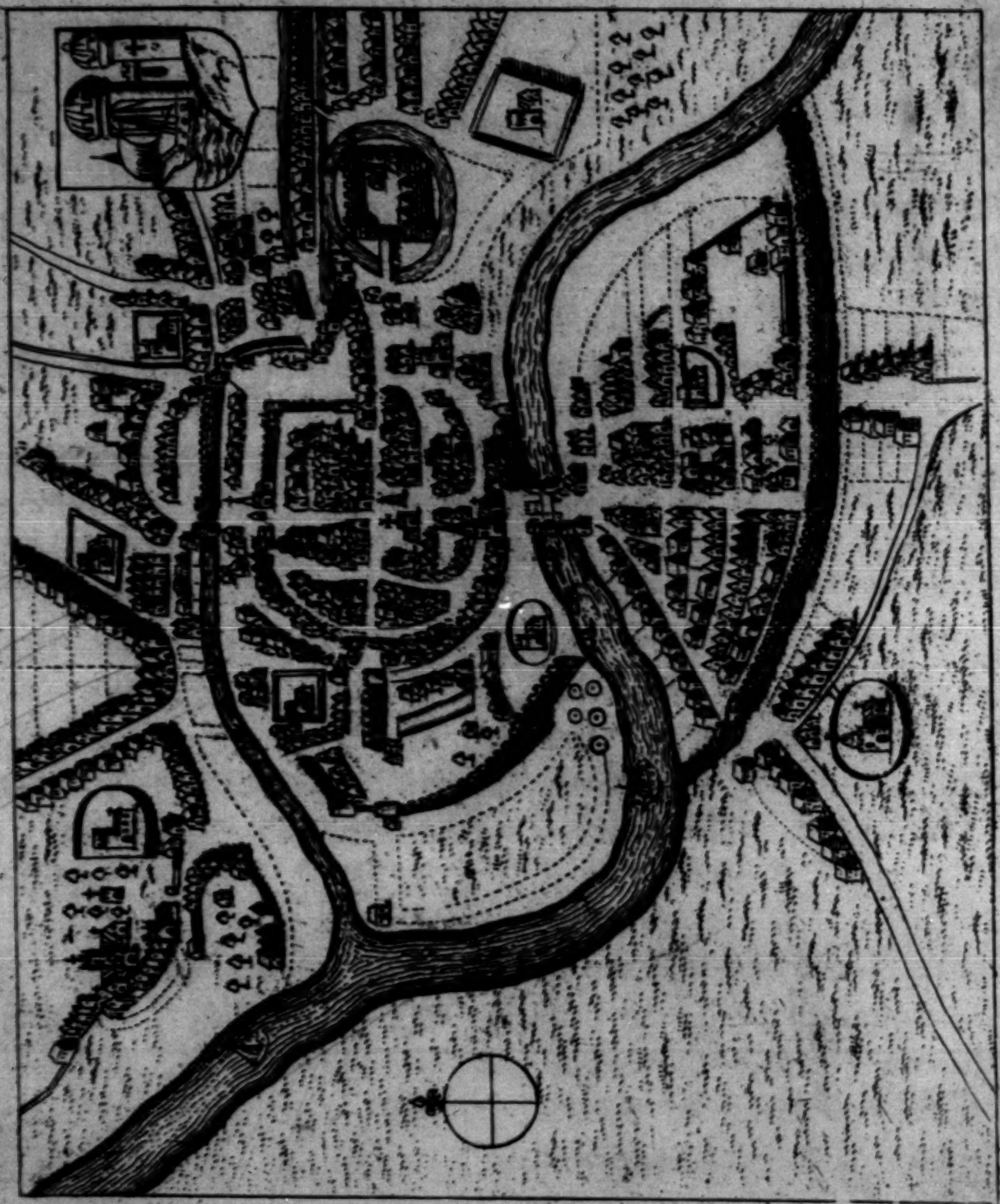
* Or Ellebridge, so called in old writings from Elle, lord of the castle; now the street next it is corruptly called Ellbroad-street, for Ellebridge-street.

† Pithay was formerly called the Putte, or pit, from its low site; and the gate of old had the name of pons Aylwardi, Aylward's-gate, from Aylward, the Saxon governor of Bristol; of whom see the chapter on the castle.

‡ In the county of Kerry, in Ireland, there is a very high mount, called Brandon-hill, with the remains of a small oratory on its summit, dedicated to St. Brandon, who founded a monastery, (Clonfert,) in the year 558.



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a winding channel underneath was it environed on the north side; by Redcliff, Pyle Hill and the river Avon on the south, by the Castle very defensible on the east; being seated on a hill, in a valley betwixt these hills, it has given occasion to its being compared to ancient Rome on its seven hills, its ground plot like that being nearly circular, with a somewhat greater diameter one way than another, enough to make it oval, the river cutting off one part about a sixth from the rest; like it indeed a great part of the city in its improved state is situated on several hills.

A place so happily seated as Bristol soon began to extend its ancient boundaries beyond the first erected walls, and how far, appears by the plan annexed. Redcliff side becoming large and populous was soon added to the city, which very early became a borough town, defended by a castle. Andrew De Chesne (*Gesta Steph.*) thus describes it as in the time of King Stephen: "Est Bristoa civitas omnium fere regionis civitatum opulentissima, &c." i. e. "Bristow is the richest city almost of all the cities of this country, receiving merchandize from neighbouring and foreign places with the ships under sail, fixt in a very fertile part of England, and by situation the most defensible of any city in England; for as we read of Brundisium, a certain part of the county of Gloucester is here confined in form of a tongue, and stretched out into length; two rivers washing its two banks, one on each side, and in its lower parts where the ground sinks, joining together into one flow of water, form the city: a quick and strong sea tide, flowing up night and day, occasions the rivers from both parts of the city to ebb into the broad and deep sea, making a most safe and convenient port for a thousand ships; and so strictly inclosed is its circuit, that the whole city seems to swim in the waters, and wholly to be set on the river banks."

[This admirably describes the city every high tide, when the rivers being full give it this appearance. William of Malmesbury, in the time of Henry 2d. (*de Gestis Pontif.* p. 283 fol.) thus describes it: "In eadem valle est vicus celeberrimus Bristow nomine in qua navium portus ab Hibernia & Norwegia et cæteris transmarinis terris venientium receptaculum, ne scilicet genitalibus divitiis tam fortunata regio (Gloucestriensis) perigrinarum opum fraudaretur commercio."

Lord Lyttelton, (in his excellent work, the Life of Henry 2d. vol. ii. p. 177.) quotes Malmesbury's authority, "that Bristol was then full of ships from Ireland, Norway, and every part of Europe, which brought hither great commerce and much foreign wealth." And if a place of such trade so early, we may be well assured, that the buildings of the city must be very

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numerous

numerous and flourishing, and have been improving long before, as trade always brings together a conflux of inhabitants.

The uniting of Redcliff with the city, by means of a bridge, seems to have been one grand step towards this great improvement, or rather the effect of the population and continual resort of settlers; who, impatient of the narrow confines of their first erected town walls, attempted to enlarge their boundaries and erect buildings beyond them, and to join by a bridge their neighbours of Redcliff, by a free, uninterrupted communication; having no other at one time but by means of a ferry at St. Thomas-slip, and perhaps some other part of the river.

These buildings were constructed chiefly on the north and west side of the town. A monastery, dedicated to St. Augustin in 1148, a priory to St. James, and other religious houses, began to be established through the favour and opulence of great men, and the charitable disposition of the people. And where these houses devoted to religion rose, there the inhabitants flocked; as if desirous of dwelling near those consecrated buildings, and under the protection of those saints and martyrs, to whom the sacred enclosures were dedicated, and which they were instructed the Deity honoured with his more immediate presence.

Leland has enumerated the several religious houses in Bristow in his time, vol. vii. fol. 70, second edit. of his Itinerary.

“ Howsys sumtyme of religion in Brightstowe. — *Fanum Augustini, nunc S. Trinitatis: Inscriptio in porta.* There be three tombes of the Barkeleyes in the south isle agayne the quiere. *Fanum St. Jacobi*; it standithe by Brode Meade by northe from the castle, on an hilly ground, and the ruines of it standithe hard buttyng to the este ende of the paroch church, non longe a dextra ripa Frai, (i. e. not far from the right bank of Froom.) *St. Magdalene's*; a howse of Nunes* suppressyd, on the north syde of the towne. The Gauntes: one Henry Gaunte, a knight, sometyme dwellinge not farre from Brandon-hyll by Brightstow, erectyd a college of pristes with a master, on the green of St. Augustine. Hospitales in ruin. *Fanum¹ Barptolomei.* *Fanum² trium regum juxta Barptolemeos extra Froome-gate.* *Aliud³ non procul, &c.* i. e. Another not far off, on the right bank of Froom as you go to the priory of St.

* On St. Michael's-hill, now the site of an inn, the King David.

¹ The hospital of St. Bartholomew, once the city-school, now Queen Elizabeth's Boys' hospital.

² The house and chapel of the Three Kings of Cologn, an almshouse at the upper end of Steep-street, in St. Michael's parish.

³ Now Spencer's almshouse on the banks of Froom in Lewin's-mead, 1460.

St. James, in Lionsmede-street. One ⁴ in Temple-strete. Another ⁵ by St. Thomas-strete. St. John's, ⁶ by Radeclef. An hospitall ⁷ S. Trinitatis hard within Lafforde's-gate. The Tukker's hospitall in Temple: the Weevers' hospitall in Temple-strete. ⁸ There was an hospital of old tyme where of late a nunrye was, cawlyd S. Margaret's.

"The Grey Friers' howse ⁹ was on the right ripe of From Watar, not far from St. Barptoleme's hospital. The Blake Friers ¹⁰ stode a little highar than the Gray, on Frome in the right ripe of it: Ser Maurice Gaunt, elder brother to Ser Henry Gaunt, foundar of the Gaunts, was foundar of this. The White Fryers ¹¹ stode on the righte rype of Frome agayn the Key. The Augustyne Friers' howse ¹² was hard bye Temple-gate wytheine it northe weste."

In another place, vol. v. f. 64. or p. 60. 2d edit. he mentions, "St. Augustine's Blake Chanons ¹³ extra mænia (without the walls) ibique in magni area sacellum, in quo sepultus est S. Jordanus, unus ex discipulis Augustini Anglorum apostoli. A house without the waulles, as I remembre, cawlyd the Gautes, ¹⁴ otherwyse Bon Hommes. [iiii] howses ¹⁵ of Freres, of the which the White Fryers place ys very fair."

Besides these hospitals mentioned by Leland, there were others mentioned in the will of John Gaywode, 1471, thus:

"Pauperes fraternitatis St. Joannis Baptistæ in ecclesia St. Audæni; domus Elemosynar. de Long Row Burtoni: domus Elemosynaria Richardi Foster juxta Redcliff-gate; pauperes de lazarehouse de Brightbowe; pauperes domus

H 2

Wil.

⁴ Spicer's hospital, on the west side within Temple-gate.

⁵ Burton's almshouse, founded 1292.

⁶ St. John's, in Redcliff-pit, near St. John's-lane there.

⁷ Trinity hospital, on both sides the way just within Lawford's-gate, the upper end of the Old Market.

⁸ Still in being there with some endowment; see chap. on Temple parish.

⁹ Opposite Spencer's almshouse in Lewin's-mead, now a sugar-house, founded in 1274.

¹⁰ On the Wear, now the site of the Quaker's Meeting-house, 1229.

¹¹ On Frier's-hill, next Pipe-lane, in the parish of St. Augustine, now the site of Mr. Colston's hospital and other buildings. It extended back to the Red Lodge.

¹² On the east side just within Temple-gate, opposite Temple pipe conduit, now the site of the Great Garden, called also Spring Gardens.

¹³ The cathedral of the Holy Trinity in College-green.

¹⁴ The Mayor's chapel.

¹⁵ The White, the Grey, the Black, and Augustinian.

To these add St. Sepulchre's in Bell-lane, near St. Laurence church, now warehouses, where was a nunnery.

Wil. Canynges super montem de Redcliff, 1442 : domus Elemosynaria Johannis Spicer juxta portam Templi ; pauperes Fraternitatis Sanctæ Catherinæ ; pauperes & egeni apud Aulam Fullonum ; domus Elemosynaria prope ecclesiam omnium sanctorum ; pauperes St. Joannis de la Redclive-pytt ; carcerati egentes de Monkebrigge (or Bridewell) ; pauperes domus Elemosynariæ sanctæ Trinitatis juxta Laford's-gate." — To all these he was a benefactor.

Others also have arisen since, or succeeded some gone to ruin ; as St. John's and All Saints' almshouse, new built ; the Merchant Taylors' almshouse, in Merchant-street ; Colston's almshouse for old men and widows, on St. Michael's-hill ; the Merchants' almshouse, in King-street ; St. Nicholas almshouse, in the same street ; all which are well built, and have excellent accommodations for the poor, some are also amply endowed. Add to these that spacious and general asylum for the poor, the old, the infirm, the diseased, and the helpless, St. Peter's hospital, the public poor-house of the city, near St. Peter's church, the Orphan school for poor boys, called Queen Elizabeth's hospital, formerly next College-green, now removed into Christmas-street ; as also the great school for poor boys, called Colston's hospital, on St. Augustine's-back, in which one hundred boys are clothed, fed, and educated, from seven years of age till fourteen, when each has 15l. given him at his going out to an apprenticeship.

The chapels, religious houses, churches, hospitals, and almshouses, are particularly noticed and the measurements of them as they stood in 1480, in William Botoner's book, extracts of which will be given in the particular description of each as it occurs.

In the register of William of Wickham, Bishop of Winchester, is the following particular of the chapel of St. Brendan : " Ibidem 14 die Augusti, 1403 dominus concessit, &c." i. e. " he granted to all benefactors to the chapel of St. Brendan nigh Bristol and to Reginald Tailor the poor hermit of it, forty days of indulgence by his letters for one year only to continue ;" by which it appears there was an hermitage of religious here with a chapel dedicated to St. Brandon an Irish Saint. And in an old Latin deed relating to the Gaunts, I find a piece of ground or croft juxta pasturam sancti Brendani, near the field of St. Brendan held by a female recluse or hermit — quam reclusa tenuit. In the year 1351, Lucy de Newchirche repeatedly offered to the Bishop of Worcester and desired leave to be shut up in the hermitage of St. Brendan of Bristol, and to quit the world, which after due inquiry into her conduct and purity of life and necessary virtues for it, was granted

granted her: as we find by this deed, E. Registris Wygornia, Thoresby
f. 21 a

Commissio ad includendam Luciam de New Chirche Anchoritam.

Johannes miseratione divina Episcopus &c Salutem; dilecto filio magistro Johanni d' Severley Archidiacono nostro Wygornienfi gratiam & benedictionem: accedens ad nos Lucia de New Chirche se Anchoritam in Heremitorio St. Brendani de Bristol nostræ dioceseos cum instante et humili devotione, prout nobis per sui gestus habitum apparebat, includi repetitis vicibus postulavit. Nosque de vita & conversatione predictæ Luciæ notitiam non habentes vobis, de vestra fidelitate & industria & circumspeditione plenius in domino confidimus, ad inquirendum per viros & mulieres fide dignos de conversatione illius Luciæ; & si eam vitæ laudabilis esse et mundæ & alia virtutum insignia quæ in hunc mundum relinquentibus vigere deberunt, in ea pollere perpenderitis: ac diebus & temporibus, prout expediens fuerit ac juri consonum & rationi eidem pro sui examinatione vestro arbitrio assignandis, ipsam in mundo proposito perseverantem inveneritis & constantem, super quo vestram coram Deo conscientiam oneramus, eam in dicto Heremitorio Anchoritam includendi per vos vel alium vobis quantum cum Deo possumus inoffenso jure, committimus vices nostras. Dat. London: 7 die Maii Anno Dom. millesimo CCC^{mo} LI^o & translationis nostræ 2^{do}.

Besides these Chapels noted by Leland, there was also the chapel of St. Giles annexed however to St. Leonard's in 1301; and there were others of a much earlier foundation, and so old as not even to be seen in their ruins in his time. — The following I met with in an old manuscript *penes me* in Chatterton's hand writing from Rowleie.

" St. Baldwyns Chapelle in Baldwyns-street: Brightike haveing made it
" ynto a house, Kynge Harrie secundus in hys yinge daies was there taughte:
" yn the wall of it was an Ymagerie of a Saxonne Abthane crabattellie
" ywroghtenne with a mantille of Estate which yonge Harrie enthoughten to
" be moke fyner dresse thenne hys, causeynge the same to be quaintissen yn
" elenge felke & broderie; thus came Courte dresse from a Bristoe Yma-
" gerie.

" St. Mary Magdelens Chapelle: founded by Elle Ld. Warden of the
" Castle near Elle-gate, sythence ycleped New-gate. Yn thys Chapelle of
" the Castele was ysworne a Treatye between Goodwyne Earle of Kent,
" Harold estfoons Kynge of Englande, Leofwinus, hys Broders, & other
" Nobles of the Londe.

" St.

" St. Matthyas is Chapelle — Thys Chapelle was fyrst ybelden bye
 " Alwarde a Saxonne ynne 867 & ys now (about the year 1460) made of the
 " old walles of the same a Free Maconnes Logge, of wyche same amme I
 " unwordie & Mastre Canyge Brendren; ytte ys cleped Canynges place,
 " Canynges Logge & Lyon Logge.

" Seyncte Austins Chapple: Thys freemied pyle ytte is uncouth to faie,
 " whom the same dyd ybuyld. But it mote nedes be eld: sythence it was
 " yn ruyn in the days of Wm. le Bastarde, The dribblette remaines wyll
 " shewe yts aunciauntrie and nice Carvellynge — An aunciaunte Bochord
 " faie, Geoffrie a norman Carveller dyd newe adorne the same in Edward
 " Confessors daies." This chapel stood next the fine gate leading to the
 lower Green. — In another manuscript by the same also is thus def-
 cribed " Seyncte Baudwins Chapple: yt stoodden ynn Baudwynne Street:
 " the preefte thereof toke Churfotte of alle boates passleyng the brydge of
 " woode there standeynge. Brighticke Erle made ytte ynto a dwellynge
 " house for wych fast Godds Ire dyd hym overtake & he deceasyd yn pry-
 " son: some faie hys Corse was forewyned as stryken wythe a Levyn Brond —
 " After his putting it to lay use K. Harolde lodged there, Robertus Fitz-
 " Harding lyved there. To this daie standeth the Crofs yn the Glebe whi-
 " lom the Glebe or Church-yard nempt Baldwyns Crosse." This house is
 now called the Back-hall in the same freet, for weighing and housing goods
 on the Back. There was hereabouts one called in some mannscripys St. John's
 chapel.

The churches in the city of Bristol being formerly eighteen besides the Cathed-
 ral with the chapels and churches now consolidated with others, had of old
 severall chauntries belonging to each, as will appear more particularly in the
 ensuing history of each parochial church; but the following table will give
 a general account of them in the year 1547 when " the worshipful John
 Cottrel, Dr. of Laws, Vicar General to Paul Bush, the first Bishop of
 Bristol, sequestred to the King's use all fruits, profits, emoluments whatsoever
 &c. for non-payment of subsidies and tenths then due, on the first May and
 at Christmas last past, and made John Rumney keeper of them so sequestred"

1st Apr. A. D. 1547. 1. Edw. vi.					l.	s.	d.
The monastery of St. Augustin near Bristol,	-	-	-	-	67	16	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
The hospital or house of Gaunts or St. Mark,	-	-	-	-	11	4	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
The hospital or Domus Calendar,	-	-	-	-	1	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
A chantry by Wm. Dean there	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Another by Sir Thomas Merryfield	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
							The

					l.	s.	d.
				The rectory of the Holy Trinity, [the yearly tenths]	1	2	0
				A chantry by Richard Erle in the same church,	0	13	4
				A chantry by Catharine Jonys there, - - - -	0	12	8
				A chantry by Rob. Alef and Roger Cantock, -	0	8	0
				Another by Thomas Ball, - - - - -			
				The rectory of the church of St. John the Baptist,	0	14	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
				Chuntries founded by Walter Frampton, - - -	1	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
				A chantry there by Thomas Rowley, - - -	0	14	0
				The vicarage of St. Leonard, [the yearly tenths]	1	4	0
l.	s.	d.		The rectory of St. Stephen, - - - - -	1	2	0
7	13	4		A chantry there founded by Richard White, -	0	15	4
3	0	0		Another there by the same, - - - - -	0	6	0
6	0	0		Another there by Thomas Belcher, - - - - -	0	12	0
6	0	0		Another there by Edward Blanket, - - - - -	0	12	0
				The rectory of the church of St. Audoen, - -	0	6	8
				The vicarage of All-Saints [the yearly tenths]	0	8	4
				A chantry by Thomas Holway, - - - - -	0	13	4
				The rectory of St. Lawrence [the yearly tenths]	0	8	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
				A chantry there by Cecily Pollard, - - - - -	0	12	0
				The rectory of St. Werburge, - - - - -	1	0	0
				A chantry there by John Foster, - - - - -	0	14	0
				The rectory of St. Mychael, - - - - -	0	12	0
				The vicarage of St. Augustine, - - - - -	0	12	0
				The rectory of St. Peter, - - - - -	0	12	9
				The rectory of St. Mary in foro, [tenths]	0	14	0
				The vicarage of the church of St. Phillip, - - -	1	10	0
				A chantry there by John Kemys, - - - - -	0	12	0
				Another by Robert Forthey, - - - - -	0	12	0
				The vicarage of the church of St. Nicholas, - -	2	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
12	7	11		A chantry there by Richard Spycer, - - -	1	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
26	3	9		Four chantries there by Everard le French, - -	2	12	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
5	0	0		Another by William Spencer, - - - - -	0	10	0
13	6	8		Two chantries by Thomas Knapp, - - - - -	1	6	8
				St. Mary's chapel on the bridge, a chantry there			
6	13	4		by Edward le French, - - - - -	0	13	4
				The church of St. James, a chantry there by			
				William Ponam, - - - - -	0	12	0
				Another			

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Another by John Spycer, - - - - -	0	10	8
A chantry of the Holy Cross in All-Saints church, -	0	16	0
Another chantry there, - - - - -	0	16	0
The hospital of St. John the Baptist in Bristol, -	5	3	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
The house of St. Mary Magdalen, - - - - -	2	3	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
The rectory of St. Mary port, - - - - -	0	10	7
The vicarage of the church of St. Mary de Redcliff, [tenths] - - - - -	1	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
A chantry by William Canyngs there, - - - - -	1	6	8
A chantry there by Richard Mede, - - - - -	0	14	0
In the church of St. Thomas, two chantries there			
by John Stokes, - - - - -	1	0	0
A chantry by John Burton, - - - - -	0	13	4
Two chantries by Robert Chepe and others, -	0	13	4
The vicarage of Holy Cross, alias le Temple, - -	0	6	5
A chantry there by John Frances, - - - - -	0	10	3 $\frac{3}{4}$

These were the churches chapels and chauntries therein celebrated, fequestred to the King's use; — of which chauntries more particular notice will be taken in the account of each parish church.

In a manuscript entituled *Liber Taxationum Beneficiorum in Anglia*, now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, taken 19th year of Edward 1st. 1291, is the following account, — In the Archdeaconry of Gloucester and Deanry of Bristol.

Ecclesia St. Stephani, - - - - -	7 Marc. dimid.
Portio abbatis Glastoniæ in eadem, - - - - -	10 Sol.
Portio abbatis de Keynsham in Ecclesia St. Laurentii, -	2 Sol.
Portio prioris, St. Jacobi in Eccles. St. Joannis, -	10 Sol.
Ecclesia St. Michaelis, - - - - -	6 Marc. dimid.
Portio St Jacobi. - - - - -	4 Sol.
Ecclesia St. Warebrigge, - - - - -	6 Marc. dimid.
Portio abbatis de Keynsham in ecclesiâ Beat. Mariæ, -	20 Sol.
Portio abbatis St. Augustini in ecclesiâ omnium sanctorum, - - - - -	30 Sol.
Portio ejusdem abbatis in ecclesia St. Augustini minoris, - - - - -	1 Marc.
Ecclesia St. Nicolai, - - - - -	6 Marc.
Portio vicarii in eadem, - - - - -	7 Marc. dimid.
Portio prioris St. Jacobi in ecclesia St. Petri, - -	11 Sol.

Ecclesia

Ecclesia St. Trinitatis, - - - - - 7 Marc. dimid.

Ecclesia St. Jacobi, - - - - - 23 Marc.

Ex exactissimo sacrarum ædium catalogo cum annuo valore e Dugd. Mon.

Anglic. v. 1. p. 1039.

	Glocest.	l.	s.	d.
Can. St. Aug. Bristol ab. St. Aug.	- - - - -	670	13	11 ob.
Can. St. Aug. St. Marc. hosp. alias Gaunt's, (alias Bilyfwyke,)	- - - - -	112	9	9 o.
St. Laurence hospital,	- - - - -	51	10	4 o.
Kalendar. domus,	- - - - -	10	18	8 o.
B. M. Magd. domus,	- - - - -	21	11	3 o.
Westbury colleg.	- - - - -	232	14	0 o.
St. Catherin. hospital,	- - - - -	21	15	8 o.
Benedict. Tewksbury abb. cum cella Jacobi,	- - - - -	1598	1	3 o.
	Somerfet.			
Keynsham abb.	- - - - -	419	14	3 o.
Mynchinbarrow,	- - - - -	23	14	3 o.
Temple Comb comandria,	- - - - -	107	16	11 o.
Bridgwater priory,	- - - - -	120	19	1 ob.

The nineteen churches have been thus enumerated in Latin verse.

De ædibus sacris urbe spectabilibus.

Sunt ædes, quarum surgentia culmina cælo
 Formosam reddunt spectanti turribus urbem :
 Redclivia, & Thomas, Templum, Phillippus & omnes
 Sancti, Augustinus, Nicolausque, Maria, Johannes,
 Audæus, Petrus, Micael, ecclesia Christi,
 Werburgæ et Stephani, nova Pauli, itemque Jacobi,
 Gautes, pontificis tandem speciosa Cathedra,
 In quibus æternæ tractantur verba salutis :
 Hæc jactant variis sese præcellere rebus,
 Una suam jactat structuram, atque altera tectum,
 Altera sublimem, qua tendit ad æthera turrim :
 Concamerata sibi jactant fundamina quædam,
 Atque sepulchretum quædam; sunt tumque fenestras
 Suntque pavementum jactantes, sunt quoque multæ
 Quæ sibi campanas guadent jactare sonoras,
 Altera prægrandes, atque altera jactat amænas,
 Altera se numero reliquas superare triumphat.
 Sed quibus ulla putat claram sese esse seorsim,
 Omnibus his junctis jactat transcendere Redcliff.

Of these places of religious institution, and of the hospitals or almshouses, a more particular description and account will be given in the parochial history hereafter.

The city, by the virtue* and industry of our ancestors, and by the unwearied application of its merchants and inhabitants to trade (not to be taught to undergo poverty†) became daily more and more populous, and increased not only in extending its buildings on every side but also in its credit, opulence, and rank, in this commercial nation. A work was now set on foot, which, for its boldness, grandeur, and design in benefiting posterity, would do honour even to the present age: it was no less than turning the course of the river From, filling up its old channel, and digging a new one, to make the Key or Quay for the safe birthing of the ships, by which they at low water grounded on a safe bed of mud, with less danger to their bottoms: which is excellently described by Leland, vol. vii. 2d edit. fol. 70. or p. 87.

“ The haven by Avon flowithe about a two miles above Brightstowe-bridge.
 “ The ships of olde tyme cam only up by Avon to a place caullyd the Bek,
 “ where was and is depthe enowghe of watar, but the bottom is very stony
 “ and rughe; sens by polecye they trenched somewhat alofe by northe-west
 “ of the old Key on Avon anno 1247, and in continuance bringing the course
 “ of From-ryver that way hath mad a fofte and whosy (oozy) harborow for
 “ grete shippes.”

This

* *Virtute et Industria*, is the motto of the Bristol arms; a due regard to it will ever preserve its honour and renown to latest posterity. — The old arms of the city of Bristol are, gules, a castle upon an hill by the sea-side, and the helm of a ship passing by, all proper; to which were afterwards added, supporters, &c. See the prints.



† *Indocilis pauperiem pati*, the motto of the arms of the Merchant Venturers here. The arms of the Merchants' Society are, barry undè of eight pieces argent and azure on a bend or, a dragon volant vert, on a chief g. a lion passant gardant or, between two bezants.

This enterprize of making a new key, and of constructing a stone bridge across the Avon, and joining to Bristol Redcliff side, (which though before a part of the city yet belonging to the honour of Gloucester, was under a separate government till the charter of Henry 3d. (which see in the annals for the year,) was undertaken about the same time, and formed together one grand complete scheme, which made such amazing alterations, was attended with such beneficial consequences to the community, that it ought justly to be signalized apart as a particular æra, from whence to date the rise of those great improvements that followed; advancing, with a rapid progress, the honour, riches, and commercial interests of this city: which, by the virtue and industry of its citizens, has rose to its present grandeur and dignity in the nation; and that alone reflects greater honour on Bristol than any thing that we have said or can say in its praise for its antiquity, the only thing many places, more extolled in chronicles or old histories, have now left to boast of; whilst this, like a well cultivated spot, has been continually flourishing with renewed vigour, extending its commerce to the most distant regions, enlarging its antient bounds by additional buildings and magnificent public structures, and has thus merited its antient Saxon name Brightstowe, i. e. an illustrious city, by becoming yearly more and more illustrious.

Previous to constructing the stone bridge and making the new key, in the year 1239 our prudent forefathers purchased of the then abbot of St. Augustin, William de Bradestone and the convent, ground in the marsh of St. Augustin sufficient for their purpose of making the new trench, haven, or quay: a copy of the original covenant between them follows.

"Conventio facta inter abbatem & conventum St. Augustini, Bristollia, & maiorem & communiam Bristollia, de terra in marisco St. Augustini versus aquam de Frome.

"Hæc est conventio facta inter dominum Willielmum de Bradestone, tunc abbatem sancti Augustini Bristollia & ejusdem loci conventum ex unâ parte, & Ricardum Aillard, tunc maiorem Bristol & totam communiam Bristollia ex altera parte: scilicet quod dictus abbas & conventus concesserunt pro se & successoribus suis in perpetuum maiori & communia Bristollia, et eorum heredibus totam terram illam in marisco St. Augustini Bristollia quæ jacet extra fossatum, quod circuit terram arabilem dictorum canonicorum directe versus orientem usque ad marginem portûs Frome: quod quidem fossatum extenditur a grangia dictorum canonicorum versus Abonam; salvis abbati & conventui predicto terrâ proximâ dicto fossato versus grangiam predictam, ubi dicta communia incipit fossare septies viginti & quatuor pedibus terræ in latitudine et in

medio dicti marisci quater viginti & duodecim pedibus terræ in latitudine; & in exteriori parte dicti marisci versus Abonam sexaginta pedibus terræ in latitudine, super quam terram sic mensuratum communia Bristollia & eorum hæredes habere debent liberum iter suum, introitum & exitum & transitum ad naves suas & ad spatiandum pro voluntate eorum de die & nocte, longe & proxime, pacifice & sine contradictione in perpetuum, sicut semper hæredes consueverunt: debent autem prædicta communia & eorum hæredes salvare abbati & conventui prædicto et successoribus suis eandem terram mensuratam ita scilicet quod in cursu aquæ terram deterioraverit, dicta communia illam debet emendare: residuam vero terram dicti marisci Sancti Augustini Bristollia ex orientali parte & australi prædicti fossati debent prædicta communia & eorum hæredes integre habere et possidere ad faciendam inde unam trenchiam, portum & quicquid dictæ communia melius servierit absque omni impedimento & contradictione in perpetuum: pro hac concessione siquidem & pro bono pacis dederunt prædicti maior & communia Bristollia prædicto abbati et conventui novem marcas argenti: undi ut hæc concessio rata et stabilis permaneat, tam sigillum prædicti conventus quam sigillum communitalis Bristollia mutua appenda sunt huic chirographo: hiis testibus Domino Johanne filio Galfridi, Thoma de Berkleia, Rob. de Gourney, W. de Pycott, Ignatio de Clyfton, Rogero de Warre de Knolle, Johanne le Warre de Brixulton & aliis; facta autem conventio vigiliâ annunciationis beatæ Mariæ, anno regni Domini regis H. filii J. viceffimo quarto." — A. D. 1239, 24th Hen. 3d.

By this the abbot grants to the mayor, Richard Aillard and the commonalty of Bristol, all the land lying without a certain ditch of their's, that surrounded their arable land, directly towards the east unto the brink of the haven of From, which ditch extended from the Grange of the Cannons towards the Avon. The ground next the said ditch towards the Grange, where the commonalty began to dig, being reserved to the abbot and convent, seven score and four feet broad; in the middle, four score and twelve feet broad; and in the outer part of the said marsh towards the Avon, sixty feet broad. Upon the ground so measured out, the commonalty of Bristol and their heirs were to have free passage, ingress and egress, to their ships in the new trench or quay, and to walk as they pleased, by night or by day, without let or molestation for ever: but the city was obliged to amend and repair the lands so measured out, if by the current of water it should be damaged. The remaining ground of the said marsh of St. Augustin, from the east and south part of the ditch, the mayor and commonalty of Bristol were to have wholly and possess, in order to make from thence one trench, haven, or whatever should best serve

serve their purpose, without hindrance, for ever, paying nine marks of silver.

This grant being obtained, it was not long before they put the work in execution. Some dispute has arisen betwixt the Corporation of Bristol and the Dean and Chapter, who are now in the stead of the Abbot and Convent aforementioned, concerning the limits of this ground on St. Augustine's back, granted unto the city by this deed, and it is yet undecided in the year 1788. It appears that some years after the above grant the Abbot sued the city for trespassing upon the privileges of his monastery, where he held a court of view of frank pledge and a sanctuary except for treason, and complains, "*quod non faciunt reparationes circa littora aquæ vocatæ Frome devastantis terram dicti abbatis sicut tenentur,*" meaning doubtless the land secured to the Abbot by the above grant; — by which it is clear that a large portion of ground was given to the commonalty of Bristol, then called Avon marsh, lying on the east side of the same river, by the abbot and convent, on condition that the said Mayor and commonalty should defend from the water Frome a certain parcel of ground belonging to the monastery and adjoining the same, which in the time of Abbot John Newland was by them neglected, to the great damage of the ground called Cannons marsh; which was one great cause of dispute in Henry 7th's. time betwixt them. (Great white Book p. 18, 6.) In 1496, 11th Henry 7th the contest was compromised by the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Chancellor — (p. 36 G. white Book) during the dispute the Mayor forbade the burgeses to sell any provisions to the convent, grinding corn at their mill called then Trenel now Trin-mill, hindered the course of justice and performed many other ill offices.

The following was the petition of the Abbot by which the cause of the dispute will appear.

Supplicatio Abbatis.

1. Pro denariis levatis & districtionibus captis de tenentibus infra privilegium Monasterii Sancti Augustini juxta Bristol eidem reddendis & sub injunctioe pecuniaria ne iterum facere presumpserit.

2. Pro victualibus & aliis necessariis emendis vel vendendis nullum postea fiat impedimentum.

3. Quod inhabitantes Bristoliam volentes grana sua molere ad molendina dicti Abbatis non impediantur.

4. Quod fiat executio Justitiæ in causis dicti Abbatis sine dilatione vel cavillatione.

5. Quod reddant Terras & redditus detentos prædicto Abbati.

6. Quod

6. Quod faciant reparationes circe littora aquæ vocatæ Frome devastantis
 terram dicti Abbatis

To exactly ascertain the ground specified in the deed would now be very difficult, the limits being destroyed and the places so much altered by time; but in general we may assert, that so much ground as is parted from St. Augustin's side and now makes the channel of the river Frome and the Quay, was fully assured to the city by this grant; and a privilege also allowed the citizens of so much more ground as is there mentioned to be measured out next the Grange and towards the Avon for their use of going to their shipping, &c: and this indeed was all that was wanting to compleat the work. They began digging and forming the new channel from the Key conduit towards the Gib, unto the place beyond the Grange of the Monastery, which I suppose to be below Toms's dock, the ditch inclosing Cannon's marsh beginning there about: by which neither the water of the Avon or the Frome interrupted the work. — The trench thus dug towards the Avon and then towards the Frome separated the marsh of Bristol (now built into a square) whence the name of Marsh-street from the marsh of St. Augustine (now called Cannons marsh) partly built on and converted to the use of a dock, timber yard, rope walk and dwelling houses, the privilege of passing to and fro there, being retained to this day. — As they were obliged by the covenant to keep on the outside of this ditch, they were confined to that direction and could not make it quite straight, especially opposite the marsh of St. Augustin, where it is a little winding, till it opens into the Avon. From whence having dug quite to the present head of the quay or quay-conduit, (as some manuscripts have it) where the river Frome in a winding course followed the walls of the city in its natural current to Baldwin-street; this new communication with the Avon was effected, that through Baldwin-street being stopped up, the Frome changed its course and ever after passed through this new channel, which being enlarged and walled, makes a safe and convenient quay, equal if not superior to any in the kingdom, being a mile and a quarter round from the head of the quay to Bristol bridge; and the ships are admitted by it into the midst of the city.

In several manuscripts *penes me* the digging the quay is variously expressed; one by Adams in 1626 has it, "Anno 1245, (Richard Alayne mayor, William Concord and John Northfolk prepositors) a trench was made and cast at Gibtaylor up to the brazen stock of the key by the Mayor and commonalty of the town." Another thus, "Anno 1240, 24 Henry 3d. as Ricaut's Kalendar says, some say in 1245, 1246, 1247, the trench or key was

was made from Gybb Tailleir * to the key conduit as well those of Redcliff-ward and of Temple fee as of the town of Bristol taking their turns in the labour and charge: the Froom running before along Baldwin-street where it drove a mill called Baldwin's cross-mill, and fell into the Avon near a place where now stands the Back hall, then was the old channel dammed up and formed into a street, to which there was an easy back passage and communication from St. Leonard's church as far as St. Nicholas church, though in two places in St. Nicholas-street there was a descent by a flight of steps for foot passengers. Before this time Cannons marsh took in all those places where are now the Key, Gibb Tailleir and Princes-street, and the ground next Marsh-street, the scite of part of which formed what was called Chanters close and was exchanged by the Corporation with Sir William a Bradstone the abbot for the Treen-mills with reservation of the privilege of hunting the duck there for the disport of the magistrates, as one manuscript declares, but another says it was granted upon a reservation of a yearly rent, but the kalendar says in general it was purchased for a certain sum payed down at executing the grant:" which appears to be the truth, though it looks from such various relations of the facts that the bargain proceeded upon all these considerations. Leland gives a very just and particular relation of this whole transaction wherever he picked it up. "The year of our Lord 1247 was the trenche made and cast of the river from the Gibb Taylor to the Key by the Comonalty as well as Redcliff fyde as of the towne of Bristoll; and the same tyme the inhabitants of Redcliffe were combined and incorporated to the aforesaide towne. And as for the ground of Saynt Augustins fyde of the river it was geven and granted to the comonalty of the sayed towne by Sir William Bradstone, then being Abbot of the same Monastery for certayne money therefore payed to him by the comonaltye, as it apperithe by writynge thereof made betwinge the Mayor and comonalty and the Abbote and his brethren." In another place he thus describes the river Avon as (when the tide is in) filling the river and bringing in the shipping. "Avon ryver about a quarter of a mile beneath the towne in a † meadow casteth up a great arm or gut by which the greater vessels as mayne toppe shippes cum up to the towne. So that Avon doth peninsulate the town and vessels may cum of both sides of it. I marked not well whither there cam any fresh water from the lande

* Whence this name is derived is no where said — I find a man named Gilbert le Tailor, who might give rise to it.

† (Meadow, i. e. Cannons marsh) and the marsh of Bristol now Queen's-Square, betwixt which is the quay, dividing both.

lande to bete that arme." By this he saw it, I suppose, when it was high tide, when the little river Froom is lost in that of the Avon.

That the Key of Bristol was made at the joint expence of the men of Redcliff, as well as of those of the town of Bristol, appears evidently from a writ of mandamus sent to them by Henry 3d. dated 27th April, the 24th year of his reign, which I have translated from the Latin original. — " Henry, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy, Aquitaine, and Earl of Anjou, to all my honest men dwelling in la Redclive, in the suburb of Bristol, wisheth health. Since our beloved burgeses of Bristol, for the common profit of the town of Bristol as well as of your suburb, have begun a certain trench in the marsh of St. Augustin, that ships coming to our port of Bristol may more freely and without hindrance come in and go out, which trench indeed they cannot perfect without great charges; we therefore command you, that since from the bettering the said port no small advantage will accrue, not only to those burgeses, but also to you, who are partakers of the same liberties which our said burgeses have in the said town, and are joined with them both in scot and lot, that you lend the same assistance as they do; as it will be also very profitable and useful to you to have the work of the trench happily compleated, according to what shall fall to your share, together with our burgeses; and so effectually, that the aforesaid work, which we regard as our own, receive no delay, through any defect in you. Witness myself, at Wyndlesore, 29th April, 24th year of our reign." — Before this was made, the usual place, as Leland says, for landing goods out of the ships was at the Back,* where was the old Custom-house, still remaining, having the arms of England in its front; and at St. Nicholas-port, above the bridge before that was built, where on taking down the shambles large Gothic arched cellars, running back almost into Maryport churchyard, were discovered, used formerly for reception of merchants' goods there landed: and an old mooring post was discovered in the ground on entering the north door of Maryport church itself, which post was removed about 1750. It appears, by a note in the great White Book in the Chamber of Bristol, that the cutting of this trench, for the course of the Froom through the Key, cost the commonalty of the city the sum of 5000l. a vast sum of money in those days. — Such a convenience to a trading city as this Quay, which admitted the ships laden up to the merchants' warehouses built near its banks, could not but be attended with the good consequence of promoting the commerce of the city. The Quay being compleated, and the marsh of Bristol thereby effectually

divided

* Back, or Bek, a Saxon word for a river.

divided from that of St. Augustin, houses and streets began to be built there; Marsh-street terminated with a chapel, dedicated to St. Clement, and a gate; and Back-street with a gate also, and a chapel near it, dedicated to St. John, and belonging to St. Nicholas; the church of St. Stephen and its dependent parish, and the buildings between the Back and the Quay, seem to have taken their rise at this period, and were all inclosed with a strong embattled wall, *externa* or *secunda mœnia urbis*, extending from the Key to the Back, where King-street has since been built. Vid. second plan of the city.

The inhabitants, now impelled thereto by a noble spirit of improving their city, not depressed by the consideration of expence attending the work, applied themselves to the business of erecting a permanent stone bridge across the Avon. That there was a wooden bridge there before the year 1247, the year in which all the manuscripts I have seen agree the stone bridge was erected, there is no sort of doubt. It is very unreasonable to suppose the contrary, as the city had been flourishing and very populous, and would certainly not labour under the great inconvenience of passing by boat a rapid river in the winter, as the only communication with their brethren of Redcliff. The river indeed was a proper separation of the kingdom of Mercia from that of the West Saxons, but as soon as the latter were possessed of Bristol, and Brightrick walled it, a better intercourse with the Redclivians, and between Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, than by an uncertain ferry, soon became necessary. Accordingly we find that there really was a wooden bridge there for some years, which, falling to decay and being unfit for the service required, was at this time pulled down and re-edified, in a more commodious and lasting manner, with thick stone piers and arches. London, in like manner, had no more than a wooden bridge till the year 1209, and Bristol seems to have copied it in that as well as in erecting a chapel and houses on the stone bridge after they had built one. It has been said indeed, that there was no bridge at Bristol over the Avon till 1247, the 31st of Henry 3d. but a charter of Henry 2d. without date, and the following grant from Robert Fitzharding quite disproves that matter. " Robert, the son of Harding, to
 " all his friends and to all men present and future health. Know ye, that I
 " have granted and confirmed that my men, who dwell in my fee in the marsh
 " near the bridge of Bristol, have their customs and liberties, &c. which the
 " men of Bristol have, as our Lord the King has granted unto them; and I
 " will that they remain to them whole and full during my time, and that of
 " my heirs. Witness, Richard Abbot of St. Augustin, William Prior, and
 " others." Maurice de Berkly, son of the above Robert, confirmed to his
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men of Redcliff, by his grant, the customs and liberties which they had in the time of his Father, and which were confirmed to them by his said father.

Now it appears, that it was in the time of Henry 2d's. reign that Robert Fitzharding made the above grant; in which it appears, that the *men dwelling in the marsh* near the *bridge of Bristol* are the same men that afterwards are called by Maurice, in H. 3d.'s time, his *men of Redclive*: from whence it may be inferred, that Redcliff being low ground, liable to be flooded by the high tides, was first called the *marsh near the bridge*, and that a bridge was built there long before the trench was cut in the marsh by the Gibb, whether of wood or stone does not appear; though I am most inclined to believe it was the former, the old stone bridge certainly not being built till 1247, the very time when the new trench or key was dug out, and From river diverted from its usual course through the Fish-market and Baldwin-street into it. This first bridge, which might probably be of wood, was said by William of Worcester to be made in 1215 by King John, and to contain 140 gressus, or 72 virgas, p. 366. (vid. annal. for that year below, in Henry 2d's. reign.)

William of Worcester, who wrote about the year 1480, meant doubtless the stone bridge then measured of the length he sets down, and supposed it to be the same built by King John; but that was his mistake, as well as that King John founded any bridge here. We see by King Henry 2d's. charter that great prince,* who seems to have signalized Bristol, the place of his education, with his favour, could alone be said to be the founder of a bridge here, as one is mentioned in his writ of mandamus, in the reign indeed a little before that of King John, which might have deceived William of Worcester, the Bristol antiquary. In a manuscript of one Mr. Lant, *penes me*, it is said, William Earl of Gloucester founded and annexed Redcliff to Bristol, supposing that the time of the foundation of a bridge. Leland also gives it to him in these words, in Cygn. Cant. *Postea, ponte facto*; i. e. "afterwards a bridge being made, Redclive, on the left bank of the Avon, was added to Bristol, and defended with a strong wall, at the time when William Earl of Gloucester governed this county and especially Bristol."

How this stone bridge was constructed, I shall set down simply the account as it occurs in antient manuscripts, which generally agree all in the manner of relating this fact; though some are more explicit than others. One, wrote in a very old hand in my possession, has it thus:

" 1247.

* In the nich over Nicholas-gate, at the entrance of the Bridge, was a stone figure of a young prince (Henry 2d.) with a crown and sceptre, taken down and destroyed when that gate was removed, in 1760.

" 1247. This year the mayor and commonalty concluded to build a bridge over the river Avon, with the consent of Redcliff and the governors of Temple fee, thereby minding to incorporate them with the towne of Brightestowe, and so make of both but one corporate towne: for they passed by bote from St. Thomas flepp, unto St. Mary le Port to come to Brightestowe: for at that time the port was, where now St. Nicholas shambles is and there the shippinge did ride: for which cause the church is called the church of our Lady her Assumption, and the port St. Maryport: at that time noe water did run downe the key, but with one courrant did runne to the castle: for the marsh of St. Austines fyde was one mayne close called Chanters close, belonging to the Abby of St. Austines, and for the conveyinge the river from the poynte called the gibb, unto the key, the Mayor and commonalty as well of Temple fyde as of the towne of Brighestowe boughte so much ground as is parted from St. Austins fide of Sir William a Bradstone the abbot, for a certeine some of monie to him payd, as apeerethe by an old writeinge made betwene him and the mayor with the convent: and then the trench was digged for to bringe the river unto the key; for at that time a fresh river from behind the castle mills did run down under Froome gate bridge, and so throghe Baldwynne-strete now so called and it drived a mill called Baldwin's crosse-mill: and when the trench to the key was finished the water was stopped at the poynt against Redcliff; and all the while the foundation of the arches was layinge and the masons buildyng, the water did run under the bridges of Redcliff and Temple gates, being made for the same purpose: and at Tower Harris, or Harrats, the water was there bayed up, that it could not come down to hinder the building but it kept its current that way, and so the bridge being builded the beyes were broken down, and the current dothe ebb and flowe as it did formerlie. Then the fresh river that did run by Baldwins-crofs was dampned up, and made a streete. Thus these two townes were incorporated into one, both on Somersetshire fide and Gloucestershire fide, that whereas they had usually on every Munday a great market at Stallenge crosse and in Brighestow every Wednesday and Friday at the High crosse * and it was much trouble for people to pass from one fide to the other, the bridge being built the market was kept in the High-street, at the High-crosse."

Such is the account given of this transaction; in which the mayor's Calendar by Ricaut, preserved in the Chamber of Bristol, and all the private ma-

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nuscripts

* Some manuscripts say the market in Brightestowe was held in the Old Market now so called, and at this time was removed to the High-crofs which was there erected and adorned with figures.

manuscripts generally agree. Some indeed say, "it was done at the charge of the Mayor and Aldermen and with the consent and charges of Redclift and of Temple fee;" and that "beside the large cut made from Tower Harris to Redclift for the ebbing and flowing of the tide, the river Avon was damed up on each side the foundation:" — but this seems to be owing to the variety of transcripts, and different expressions of the copiers.

They pitched upon the same spot for this work where the ancient ferry was of old, and near the place where the wooden bridge (then perhaps ruinous) stood; — it was opposite St. Nicholas port which led to the center of the city, and fronting St. Thomas-street, the center parish on the Redcliff side: they could not have chosen a better situation though it is rather in the bend of the river; and the buildings on both sides of the water seem afterwards to have been laid out in a direction agreeable to this site of the bridge or passage over the Avon.

That the river was then turned into the new channel above described, evidently appears from the marks of it to this day. At Tower Harris we see even now a deep wide trench, which the high bank on one side of it shews to have been made by art, and such a quantity of earth thrown out proves its having been very large and much deeper then at present, — it runs in a direct line to Temple gate, and were the tide not shut out by a hatch it would still flow as far as Temple gate through it; there the channel is now covered by building, though open with a bridge over it formerly; but appears again at the back part of Pile-street, (which took its name from its being once a pill or passage for water) and so passing by Redcliff gate goes into the river Avon again, where it is now converted into a very large gout or common sewer for that part of the city. The city being walled on this side, it ran just under the wall and doubtless afterwards served as a very good additional fence either as a dry or wet ditch.

Another proof of the river being thus diverted into a new channel, while they were laying the foundations is the immense size of the piers, of solid masonry, which as they could build without any interruption, they made as big and as firm as they pleased, to secure the bridge for ever effectually against any injury from bodies of ice floating down, from the violence and rapidity of the current, from freshes after rain, and accidents from vessels breaking from their moorings or the like.

But what puts it beyond a doubt, is the account of a boat, and materials belonging to shipping having been dug up here in the gardens behind Pile-street.

street. The cut necessary for it was not very long, and the great advantage derived from it of building without being hindered by the water coming down upon them, points it out as the most eligible method they could have put in practice on such an occasion. That part of the river has been ever since called Back-Avon, which seems to insinuate that the Avon was once made to run on that back-side of the city.

That the bridge was not erected on a foundation made with piles has been proved; and the old piers were perforated to examine their structure if they would support the new bridge erected on them in the year 1767, and found firm and solid, when to the great surprize of the workmen they found in the middle of Redcliff pier a fell of oak about one foot square and forty foot long with two uprights near each end about nine inches square and eight or nine foot high morticed into the fell, supposed by the workmen who had been down and examined it, to be the remains of the old wooden bridge first built on this spot, which decaying, a stone one was erected in its place, when these pieces of timber were not removed, but as they built such large piers at leisure, undisturbed by the current, they walled them into the middle of the pier without the trouble of taking them up, but thinking perhaps it might give some stability to the work.

The whole breadth of the river being about two hundred feet, they divided it into four arches and three solids or piers; but these last were made so very thick and large, that the water way left was not more than one hundred feet, rather insufficient especially in high tides and freshes, as the water being kept back and confined, thereby it made a fall at the arches dangerous to the navigation; which has occasioned their judgment being greatly called in question by our modern builders. But whatever might be their reason for making the arches so narrow and the piers so large, the projectors of this bridge and the key ought ever to be remembered with the utmost honour gratitude and regard to their memory: a work that one should suppose, they would not have been equal to and through diffidence never have attempted; but their public spirit which seems to have animated them to such a noble undertaking, ought to be extolled to latest posterity. — The idea of duration and stability seems to have influenced their judgment too much in constructing such thick large piers, but as they built in a manner on dry land, they thought they could not possibly make them too strong, having such an opportunity of doing it with ease; — however the superstructure might decay, they rightly judged, that might easily be repaired, but the piers or pillars they were for building for eternity.

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To turn the river another way was no trifling matter, therefore while it was done they rightly considered, that the firmest foundations they could build were the best, either for the present or any future use they might be applied to.

But there has been another objection made, that has more weight, and deserves some consideration, viz. how they made the Bridge so narrow at first, being only nineteen feet broad, and afterwards turned other secondary arches from the spaundrels of the first, and parallel with them; and laying large timbers, or rather trees, from the bridge to these secondary arches, not four feet thick, erected houses thereon; which was, in fact, building a bridge for a safe and open passage, and afterwards straitening or incommoding it with buildings, so as to render it difficult for two carriages in aftertimes to pass abreast or by one another, without endangering the lives of foot passengers or driving them into those very houses for their security. As to the first, it is very unfair for us, at this time, to censure our ancestors for not making the bridge wider; for doubtless at that time, it was amply sufficient for all the carriages they then used, and fully calculated for a free passage of the people over it, and the boats under it. The increased number of carriages since, and vast concourse of inhabitants, could not then have been an object of any human foresight.

The houses built on the secondary arches were not a part of the first plan. The bridge seems to have been built for some time before this scheme took place, or was allowed. A chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, I think, was the first building erected there. William of Worcester describes this chapel, as thirty-six steppys long and twelve wide; in another place, twenty-five yards long and seven yards wide; and p. 234. gives the following description of it: "1361, dedicatio capellæ pontis, &c." i. e. the chapel of the bridge of Bristol was dedicated Feb. 4, 1361; its length is twenty-five yards, breadth seven yards, its height fifty stairs; and there is a vault or arched room in its lower part, for the aldermen of the town, as long as the church with the nave, and it has four great windows on each side, and each window three lights, and an high window at the east part of the altar, and another little altar, with a small chapel on the east of the principal altar, of the length of three yards. And the chapel contains a vault, a chapel, and an hall with offices, and a lofty chamber of stone." This chapel was erected and founded by Edward 3d. and his Queen Philippa, and called the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as appears p. 185. of the great Red Book of Bristol: and John Hakston and John Hanker gave two messuages and three shops on the
Bak

Bak Avon to John Gweyn, chaplain there, for a perpetual chantry in this chapel to pray for the king's health, 49th Edward 3d.

In a letter from Pope Sixtus 4th. dated April 10, eleventh year of his consecration, this chapel is said "to be built and well endowed by certain burgeses and commons of the town," (in honore & sub vocabulo beatæ Mariæ Virginis) which might be the case, though the king and queen above had the credit assigned them, by granting the charter for it, as was usual. The pope grants leave for ringing the bells and performing all divine offices therein, doing no prejudice to the rights of the parish church of St. Nicholas, in which parish it was situated. In the will of Nicholas Chapman, 1382, I find a bequest to the chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, on the bridge of Bristol. Great Book of Wills, p. 6.

This chapel probably took its rise as much from a view of profit as devotion; and it is not improbable but they collected in it money for defraying the expence they had incurred, and for the support of the bridge afterwards, from the devotees, who came there to worship. They imitated the Londoners also in this, who in 1209 built a chapel to St. Thomas, sixty feet long and twenty-five broad, on the great pier of London bridge: and Leland says of it, vol. v. f. 22. "a mason being mastre of the Bridge-house buildyd a fundamentis, a chapel propriis expensis." This on Bristol bridge was but a small room, having three Gothic windows on each side, and was supported on an arch, turned from the pier of the Bridge to a pillar breaking out up the stream in the middle of the river, and over the chapel were the priests' chambers. It stood for many years, and was not destroyed till the year 1644; and in 1649 the two stone arches, on which the priest tenements formerly stood, belonging to the chapel, which had been burnt, were granted to Walter Stevens and son to be built upon, from Sir William Birch of Westminster, and a chief rent of 4l. per annum for a house, that went across the bridge at top, called afterwards the chapel house.

In imitation of London, or partly to defray the great charges of the bridge, (for it no where appears how it was defrayed) houses were afterwards suffered to be erected on each side of it, that it had the appearance of a dark, narrow street. These, which were let at very high and advantageous rents, in reality did not confine the passage, or make the bridge any narrower than it was at first; for the whole breadth of the bridge was in the road, and as soon as you stepped into any of the houses that hung, as it were, between the bridge and the secondary arches, you were immediately on a floor of timbers and over the water, their ends resting on the bridge and secondary arches, which
were

were Gothic, very slender, and not so compact nor so well turned as the real, primary, semicircular arches of the bridge itself, and hardly sufficient to bear such a weight of lofty buildings, pressing unequally upon them. But no words can give the reader so just an idea of Bristol bridge as a view of the following draught of it, which was made in 1760, at the time it was about to be taken down, which being coarse represents to the eye more truly the appearance of it.



This bridge, when naked and unincumbered with houses, (which were afterwards erected thereon by turning secondary Gothic arches opposite the old ones, for a foundation for one end of the buildings to rest upon,) consisted of four neat, strong, semicircular arches, the passage over it being only nineteen feet wide, which must have had a parapet wall at the sides before the houses were erected, to secure people from falling over into the river.

There was great solemnity used and public joy displayed * on the first opening of Bristol bridge: all joined in celebrating this great event, being well apprized of its extensive utility. Their care in preserving it afterwards was equal to their diligence and eagerness in erecting it. † Wheel carriages laden

* The ceremony and joy said to be displayed on this occasion, with the songs to St. Baldwin and St. Warburgh, are described already and published, p. 433. of Rowley's Poems by Dean Milles, to which I refer the reader.

† Donations were made from time to time by well-disposed people for its repairs, by Mr. Thorn and others. Even so early as Henry 3d. it appears he granted letters patent to the mayor and

laden* very heavy were but a century ago, not suffered to pass over it for fear of injuring it, and were halled on a kind of sledge for that purpose first and so brought over. — And after it was crowded with houses, to shew how little they provided then (by its first-intended width) for wheel carriages, they also had bulks before their houses there, which were not removed till the year 1698, by an act or bye law of the corporation for that purpose; and so late as the 5th Jac. ii. Oct. — “The chain at the bridge was ordered to be locked every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and every market day in High-street from eight in the morning till two in the afternoon, and no hallier, brewer or other great carriages with drays suffered to pass over to the disturbance of the people going that way.” But the greatest damage the bridge ever sustained was from fire, about the year 1646, as the date on the large chimney piece of the houses rebuilt afterwards plainly declare; when near one half of it from the chapel almost to St. Nicholas gate on both sides was consumed. But the great advantage derived from the construction of this stone bridge soon began to appear; — parishes enlarged, churches and religious houses built, and a new charter † to the Redclivians, new markets, fairs, increase of people, trade, and manufactures were the consequent good effects: some time after the pomerium or bounds of the city were enlarged and fixed by public charter of King Edward the 3d. and from this and making the new Quay most of these great events seem to have taken their rise, and every improvement we can now boast of, in regular and speedy steps followed the execution of these grand and nobly projected works of those days.

The ships indeed were now stopped from going up to unlade at the port of St. Mary, where the old well-turned gothic arches now pulled down extending some from the banks of the Avon (where the late Shambles were ‡) almost back into St. Mary le port churchyard, sufficiently demonstrated what a place of business that formerly was. The back of Bristol begun now also to yeild

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corporation in regard of their great charges in repairing the keys, walls, pitching and the bridge of the town which received great damage from floods, carts and carriages, by which they were empowered to purchase and settle lands to the value of 100l. per ann. notwithstanding the statute of Mortmain to repair the same. — Little Red Book, page 93.

* So late as the year 1615 there was an act of common council that no cart with iron-bound wheels should even enter the city further than St. Peter's pump; which gave occasion to what Camden asserted, that (in his time) they used no wheel carriages, for fear of injuring the gouts (cloacæ) or sinks arched under ground, but drays in their stead: but now all wheel carriages are used as well as drays.

† Of this charter of Henry the 3d. to the burgesses of Redcliff, and public transactions afterwards, and of the other subsequent charters, see annals for the year 1248, and after.

‡ Vid. Wm. of Worcester, p. 170. 237.

as a place of wharfage to the new Quay, where the ships lay still and undisturbed by the current on a soft bed of mud, the small craft only coming to the Back.

The edifices erected afterwards to the honour of God, and the munificent endowment of hospitals and religious houses, by the natives and inhabitants, sufficiently prove their increase in trade and opulence. And it may be said of the merchants here in general in those days, they refunded great part of the wealth they acquired here to the city again, either in their life time or at their death; of which many illustrious examples will be given, when I come to enumerate and specify the benefactors' names, and record their good deeds, whose charity and humanity do such honour to our city, that not to endeavour to do them justice, or to conceal or slightly to pass them over, in the future pages of this work, might with reason merit the severest censure.

The great improvements of the city, that succeeded fast the erection of the bridge and making the Quay, come now in course to be particularly noted, which will bring us to the present modern improved state of it.

C H A P. IV.

Of BRISTOL in its present improved State.

BRISTOL lies in 51 degrees of northern latitude, distant from London 115 miles, through Bath 123; and the turnpike roads around it, being kept in repair, render its environs the more pleasing and inviting. The many agreeable prospects, and walks or rides on the adjacent downs of Durdham and Leigh, and over the hills at Portishead, Walton, and Clevedon, in view of the Bristol Channel; the delightful villages of Ashton, Leigh, Wraxal, and Backwell, on one side; of Kingweston, (the seat of Lord Clifford) of Westbury, Henbury, Almondsbury, Stapleton, and Frenchay, on another; and of Brislington, Knowle, and Dundry, on the other, &c.; and the pleasurable excursions to the Old and New Passages; add greatly to the amusement, health, and happiness of its inhabitants. The situation of the city itself is very comfortable, being defended from the cold north winds by the adjoining hills. Now greatly enlarged by an additional extent of buildings on every side, and improved by the liberties and franchises it enjoys from several kings,
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it continues to flourish in manufactures and commerce; and consequently becomes more and more populous. Even so early as the year 1347 it had weight enough to obtain the charter from Edward 3d. for constituting it a county within itself: that great prince's words are well worth mentioning, viz. "that in consideration of the good services, by their shipping and otherwise, done to us in times past, we have granted it to be, and be for ever called the county of Bristol, and to enjoy the liberties and freedoms under-written, &c."

But the greatest dignity and highest honour from a crowned head it next arrived to, was the being erected into a bishop's see and constituted a city by the royal letters patent, which in the Latin original are dated June 4, the 34th Henry 8th. though it had enjoyed the title of a city before, it was now legally and by authority so denominated.

An old manuscript before me words it thus: — "Bristol hath been always loyal to the king's majesties progenitors and the next to the crown, not consenting to the proclaiming Q. Jane, tho' she was so proclaim'd in fundrie places. Bristol has been found willing and serviceable ever to their prince, in Q. Maries time against the French, when they sustained great losses by sea, to the undoing of many, whereof some were taken prisoners; and also in the time of late Q. Elizabeth against the Spaniards and in the wars of Ireland. — Bristol is accounted the queen's chamber,* as London is the king's chamber: it maintaineth the state of government there at their own charges, in most commendable sort. It always has been zealously affected to the advancement of God's word, and maintaineth preachers at their great charges. The maior, being the king's lieutenant, giveth place to no man but unto his majesty. — The Duke of Norfolk, the Earls of Leicester, Warwick, and Pembroke, the Lords President of the Marches, the Justices of Assize, all have and do give place unto the maior; so also the bishops predecessors have ever done the like. Always good service the town did unto the king.

"Bristol, being *villa regalis & libera*, was first made a county of itselfe the 47th Edward 3d. for notable services done to the king; and in the 34th Henry 8th. made a city, in regard of the love the said king did bear to the place, and of the great services done by the said towne, especially in the wars against the French king, who would have landed in the Isle of Wight; at which time this town did set forth eight ships. When King Henry 8th. came

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* London is called the "king's chamber" by Shakespeare, in Richard 3d. act 3, scene 1, speech of Buckingham, vide Pope's note. "Camera Regia" was anciently the name of London.

on board Bristowe's fleet on that memorable time, he asked the names of their ships; and they answered the king, it is this: The first is

The barque Thorne, of	- - - - -	600 tons.
The barque Pratt, -	- - - - -	600 tons.
The barque Gourney, -	- - - - -	400 tons.
The barque Younge, -	- - - - -	400 tons.
The barque Winter, -	- - - - -	300 tons.
The barque Shipman, -	- - - - -	250 tons.
The Eliphant, -	- - - - -	120 tons.
The Dragon, -	- - - - -	120 tons.

The king wished he had many such Thornes, Pratts, Gournays, and the like, in his londe."

In a manuscript it is said, "in 1543, twelve ships sailed out of Bristol, in the king's service, to assist at the siege of Bulloign, with Matthew Earl of Lenox, under whom served Sir William Winter and Sir Richard Maunsell, who returned again with the earl."

By these charters and other grants of privileges it soon became of great repute in the commercial world and of high rank in the nation, and every year almost was productive of improvements. New streets and public structures arose, more regular buildings were set on foot; till at length, embellished with squares, and adorned with a better stile of building, it has advanced itself to the present lustre and magnificence it may justly claim, as appears by the large plan facing the title, and a farther description or delineation of it.

The centre of the city still occupies the hilly ground of an easy ascent, being the whole of the old town or vill of Brightstow; the plain around it was first built on, and converted into streets. St. James's district soon became full of houses and inhabitants, and enlarged its borders to the very summit of Kingfdown (called formerly Prior's-hill); which with the steep hill of St. Michael, both covered with elegant houses, afford the distant eye a very agreeable prospect of pendent houses and gardens; and a spectator is struck with surprize at the first sight of a large town, hanging in continued slope, as it were, from the very clouds. From hence, and from the Park and Brandon-hill,* may be taken the most comprehensive view of the whole city below: the pleasantness of this spot, and delightful prospect of the adjacent country to a great distance, has occasioned such a train of buildings to be erected there, to grace the brow of this hill and overlook the busy town. From hence

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* See Buck's views, who published two views of Bristol, very fine; one taken from this spot, the other from Pile-hill on Redcliff side.

we descry, at a single glance, the towers and steeples of nineteen churches which adorn this city; whose comely form and stately elevation, as well as cleanness and elegance conspicuous in their insides, is justly admired by strangers, and reflects deserved applause on the inhabitants.

A solemn neatness shines on every side,
A neatness unadorn'd with Romish pride;
A comely form the stately buildings grace,
The inward worship suits this outward face.
Refin'd from all extremes, in order clean,
The English church observes the golden mean:
As temperate climes a due proportion hold
Betwixt the scorching heat and freezing cold.

Goldwin's Poem on Bristol.

This hill and St. James's parish beneath it was but thinly inhabited formerly, and, with the priory afterwards erected there by Robert Earl of Gloucester, was reckoned only the suburbs of Bristol; but now being every where full of buildings, and embellished with three regular modern-built squares, St. James's-square, King's-square, and Brunswick-square (the last begun 1769 and now 1788 completed) it is become a very considerable part of the city;—so great a part, that in 1787 an act was obtained for dividing this large parish, and erecting a new church to be called St. Paul's church, already begun; where an elegant new square, of two hundred and eighty feet every way, is intended to be formed soon, with regular buildings and uniform fronts, the ground being already purchased and laid out for this purpose. On the western side, formerly called the marsh of Bristol or Avon marsh, beyond the second or outward wall of the city, great improvements also were made by building new streets, as King-street, Prince's-street, and above all a spacious, handsome square of houses, fronted in an uniform manner, called Queen-square, in compliment to that good and amiable princess Queen Anne, began about the year 1708 and completed in 1726; which, for its delightful walks, shaded with rows of elms, and the cross walks with lime-trees, (which were taken up in 1776, as making it too shady) is esteemed an agreeable place of habitation, as well as of resort in fine weather, for the gentlemen and ladies, according to Mr. Goldwin's poetical description:

Here elms and limes in treble order run,
To screen our walking beauties from the sun;
Natures umbrella here confus'dly meets,
And summer breezes fan the cool retreats.

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In the center of Queen's-square in 1736, was set up an equestrian statue in brass by the ingenious Mr. Rysbrack, fixed on an high pedestal and inclosed with iron pallisadoes. It was long disputed at that time, what great personage should grace this elegant and spacious quadrangle: many were for Queen Elizabeth, more for Queen Ann, others for any of our Kings who had been benefactors to the city, by granting charters of privileges or immunities, but William the 3d. prevailed and had the place assigned to him in preference to all. It was set up by the corporation of that time at the expence of the chamber, and is esteemed one of the best equestrian statues in the Kingdom, were the horse less incumbered with trappings, — for which the artist is not to be blamed. It is thus described by H. Jones in a "Poem called Clifton and its environs."

What grand magnificence on virtue grows,

What squares, what palaces of late arose!

How wealth, how taste in every pile appear

With still improving grace from year to year!

Lo Queen's, — enrich'd by Rysbrack's Roman hand;

See William's finish'd form majestic stand:

His martial form, express'd with attic force,

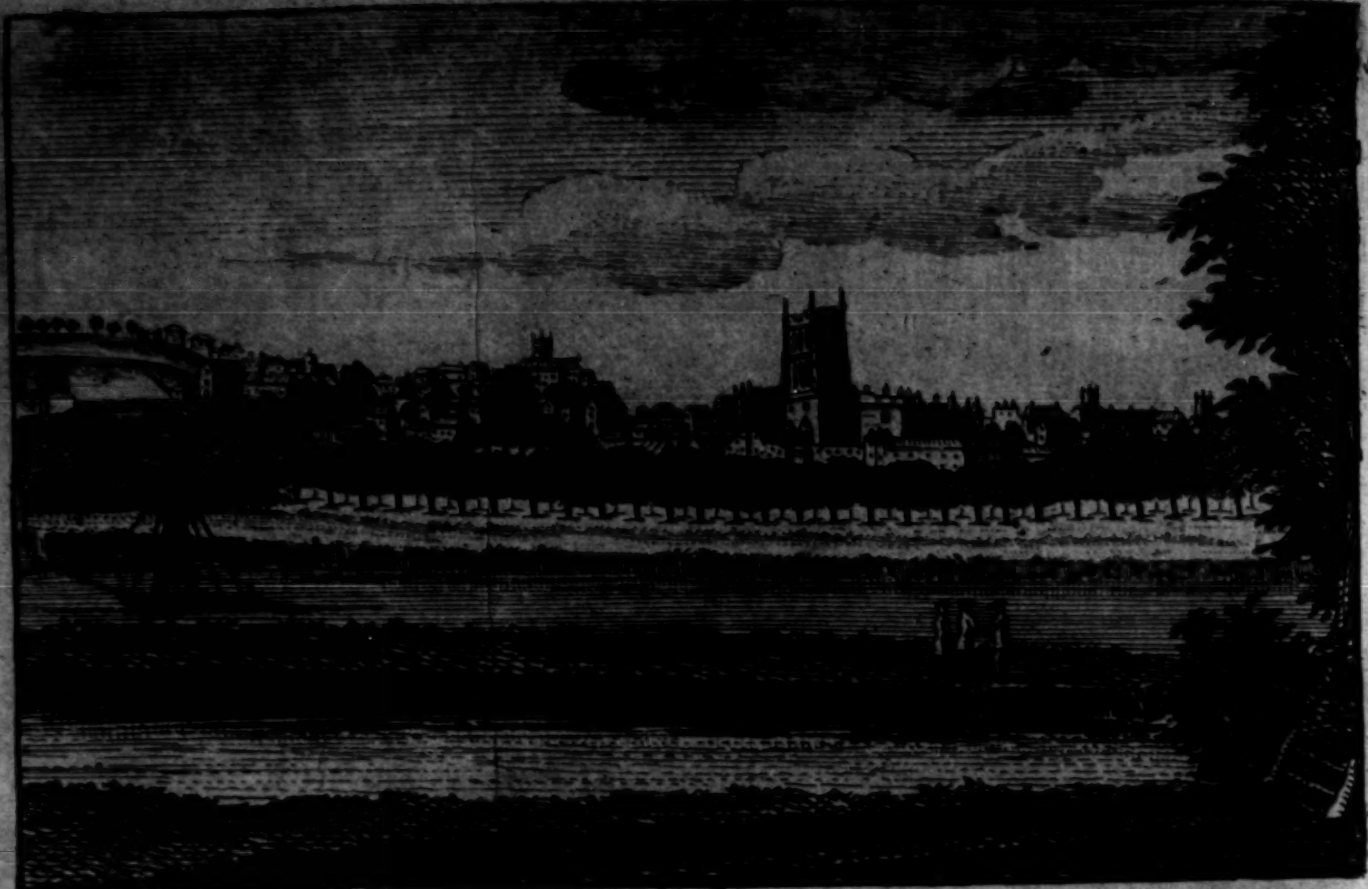
Erect, like Antonine's, his warlike horse:

With lofty elegance and Grecian air,

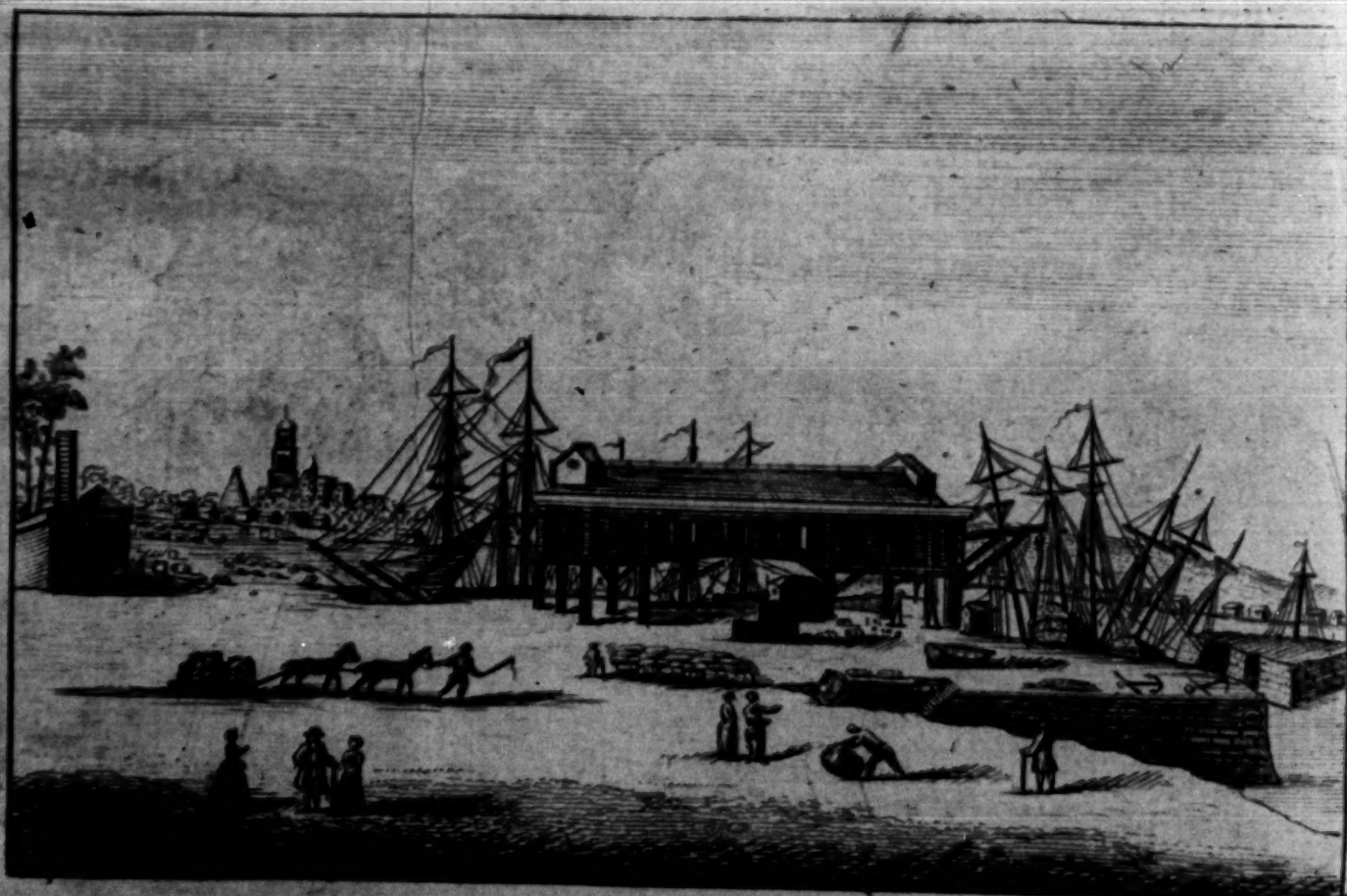
To feast the well-pleas'd eye and fill the square.

This spacious square, which is one hundred and seventy yards each side and upwards, rose like the creation out of chaos, to such beauty out of a muddy marsh, overflowed often with the tide, and was once the common receptacle of all the ashes and scavengers' sweepings of the city. Such are the alterations human industry is capable of effecting! The Grove also in this neighbourhood, fronting the river Avon, is very pleasant; but a new mud-dock, for the use and security of shipping, was there built in 1769, at the expence of the Merchants'-hall, amounting to the sum of 10,000l. with proper cranes, which is a very useful and necessary work, the trade of the city requiring more room for the shipping, which the Quay alone could not commodiously hold: and as it now continues the Quay wall quite round to the Back it completes that work, and together forms as fine a Quay, of a mile and a quarter round, as any in England, encircling in a manner that side of the city; and the ships, like a thick forest of tall trees, after sailing up with the tide into the midst of the city, lie securely on a soft bed of mud on the return of the tide by the Quay walls, and are there discharged, the goods and merchandize





CATHEDRAL or the
VIEW of the COLLEGE and ROPE WALK.
 from the Opposite South side of the River Avon



A VIEW of the GREAT CRAIN and SLIP
 at the Lower end of Princess Street

merchandise weighed off at the king's scales, and immediately deposited in warehouses at the merchants' backdoors, constructed there very conveniently for that purpose. To land the goods with greater dispatch, several cranes are erected on the wharf of the Quay at proper distances; that built and contrived by the ingenious Mr. Padmore, by the Mud-dock, near the Gibb, is an excellent piece of mechanism, fixed on large pillars of wood, and under it the goods are secured from the weather: see the view or engraved print of it.

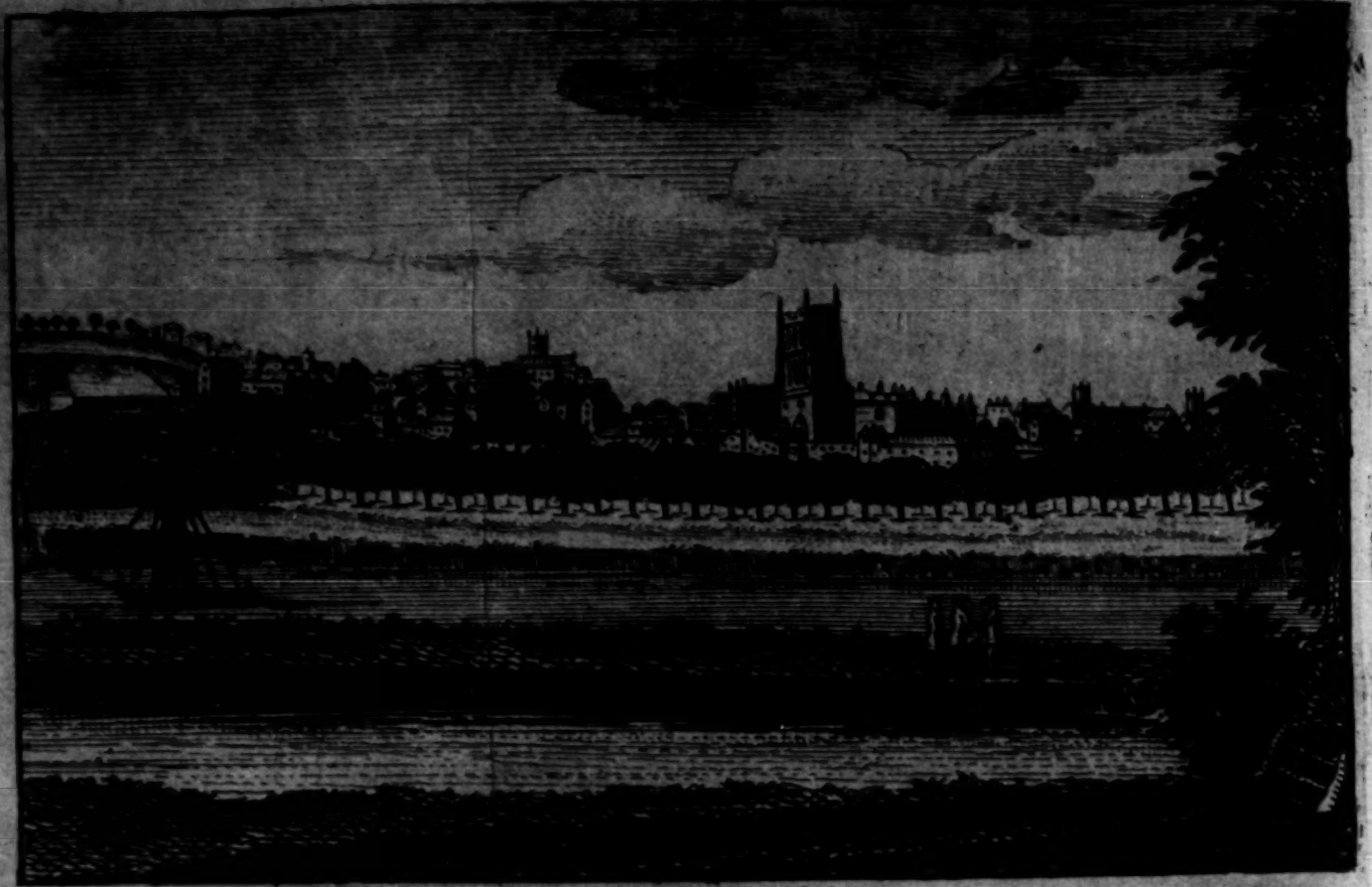
There cannot be a more pleasing walk than round this Quay, when the spring tide is coming in bringing with it ships and vessels of all kinds, laden with wares and treasures from different parts of the globe; a sight that cannot fail to gladden the heart that cherishes any regard for his country, or bears a love to Britain. The tide rises at Bristol Quay more than twenty-five feet perpendicular; at Rownham, not a mile lower, about thirty-two feet; at Chepstow, sixty feet.

In the year 1765, it was proposed by some enterprising, scheming genius, to keep the vessels constantly afloat in the Quay, by damming the water up, and erecting double gates or locks, to let the ships in and out occasionally. — A plan of Bristol Quay, with the projection of the sluices and canal for floating the shipping and Severn trows, and for enlarging the harbour by making a new canal through Cannon's-marsh, was engraved and published by the ingenious Mr. Smeaton in January 1765, to which I refer, only remarking, that the From alone was in this to be dammed up at the lower end of the Quay, and diverted into a new canal and discharged at the glasshouse, the lower end of Cannon's-marsh; but the expence of doing this was so great as to quash the enterprize, the following being Mr. Smeaton's calculation:

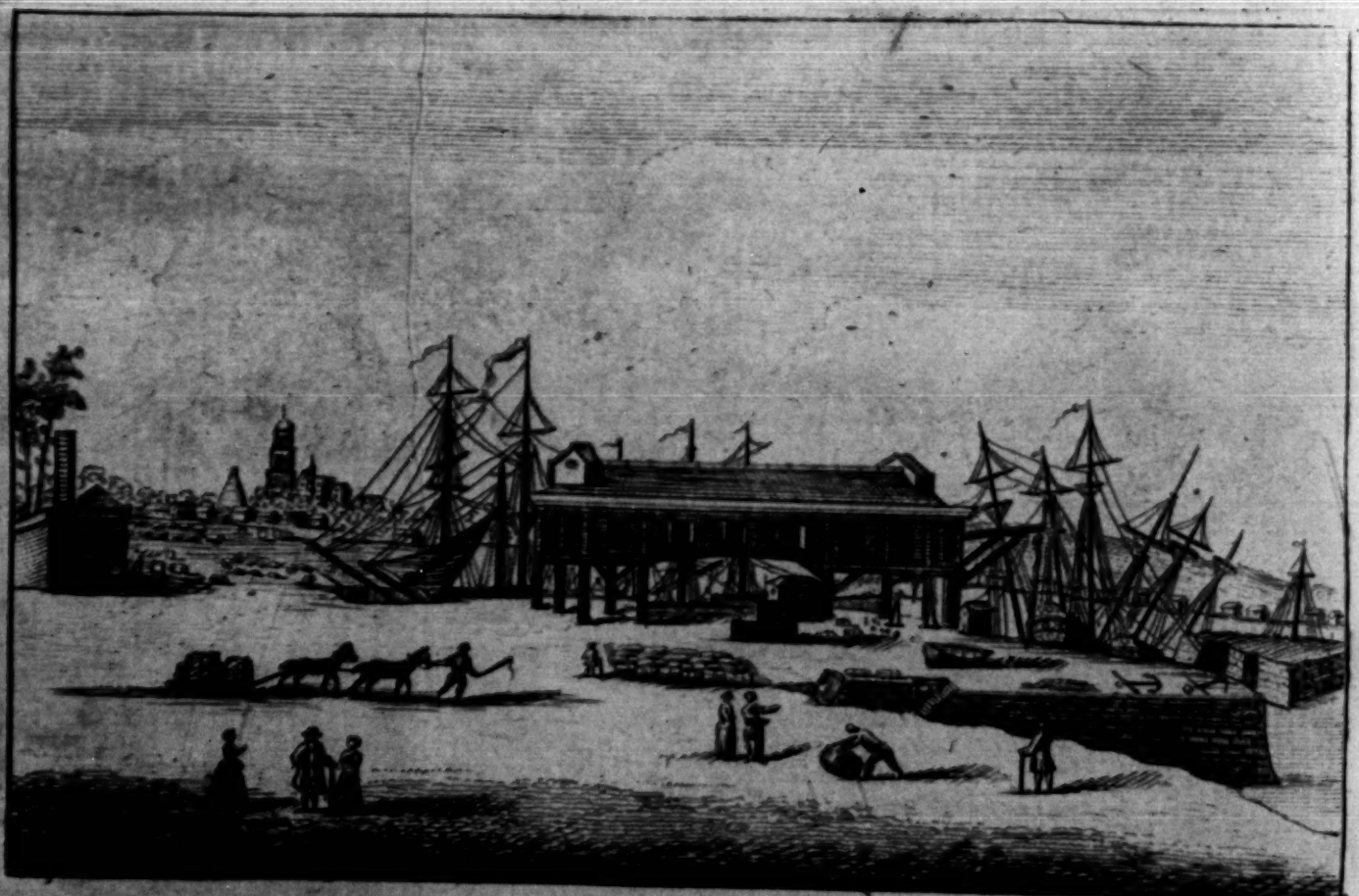
	l.	s.	d.
" To digging, - - - - -	6555	0	0
Key walling, - - - - -	4887	0	0
The two sluices, - - - - -	8000	0	0
The dam and hatches across the present mouth of the From river, - - - - -	1000	0	0
The hatches at the new bridge and upon Newgate millpond, - - - - -	600	0	0
Contingent expences, - - - - -	3958	0	0
Total - - -	£ 25000	0	0

Exclusive of purchase of lands and damages to Bridwell-mill and Tombs's dock, &c."

But



CATHEDRAL or the
VIEW of the COLLEGE and ROPE WALK.
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Contingent expences, - - - - -	3958	0	0
Total - - -	£ 25000	0	0

Exclusive of purchase of lands and damages to Bridwell-mill and Tombs's dock, &c."

But

But Mr. Champion proposed in the year 1767 a much more extensive scheme, which was, to dam up the river Avon itself just above the Gläfs-house and stream of water at the Red clift above the Hot-wells, and making a new cut through that point of land, that runs out into the river there, and forming a chamber in it secured by two sluices with double gates one above and the other below, to receive the ships into the chamber betwixt the gates with the tide, and so pass them on towards Bristol or down the river, as might be required; and by making a bridge over the dam and draw-bridges over the chambers, to effect a communication there betwixt Ashton and Clifton parishes or the counties of Somerset and Gloucester: a plan of this was also published to which I refer, but being thought still more expensive to execute than the other, and attended with many obvious difficulties and some perhaps not to be foreseen or known but on trial, the whole was dropt,* and the merchants are at present contented with the new additional large mud-dock in the Grove aforementioned and a new dock for keeping ships afloat, made at the expence of the Merchant's-hall, in the road to the Hotwells, at the expence of near 15,000 l.

The north side of the city was not also without its improvement as well as the square and western part: for a better communication with it a Draw-bridge across the Froom or Quay was erected in 1714, at the expence of 1066l. 6s. 1d. And in 1718 a by-law was made that no hallier under the penalty of 20s. for each offence should draw any timber on drays or any loaded cart or waggon over this bridge, which being of wood was repaired at a very great expence: and being since constructed in an improved method of drawing up the gates by a curious mechanical contrivance of iron wheels with cogs, it is more expensive to repair it when out of order, and the by-law more necessary to be observed and enforced. Another permanent bridge of stone was also built afterwards at the charge of the city Chamber, at the head of the Quay opposite Small-street, a great convenience as well for carriages as foot-passengers. Superb houses were also erected on St. Augustin's-green, now called College-green, the sweetest and most delightful situation in the city in the opinion of most; indeed it was ever esteemed so: for in the year 1259, in a dispute between the monks of St. Austin and the brethren of St. Mark about the right of burial in this green, (then the common cemetery of the former) the Bishop of Worcester awarded to the latter the liberty of burying there before their house, but on condition of leaving

* But this scheme, it is thought, will be yet put in execution at some future time, so desirous are they still of keeping the ships always afloat,

leaving the ground always level ("in planitiem redigatur terra propter loci amœnitatem,") "because of the pleasantness of the place." And before the houses were built and confined the prospect, it must have been exceedingly delightful; as indeed it is at present, and on Sundays and holidays it is the Mall of Bristol, a great concourse of well dressed people flocking hither at such times for a walk. Trinity-street, formerly an orchard belonging to the dissolved monastery and then to the Dean and Chapter, and Orchard-street, belonging in the like manner formerly to the house of St. Marks, are all newly erected within these late years.

Stoney-hill on this side is also almost covered with fine houses, and the hill of St. Michael, steep as it is, has but little void ground upon it.

On this side also are two dry docks for repairing and rebuilding ships, and two others very large and convenient across the Avon at Wapping, to which there is a passage at two places by a ferry-boat. At both places ship-building is carried on with great spirit and industry; at Wapping a large spacious wet dock with double gates is built lately to receive the shipping and keep them constantly afloat; a proper method to secure them from being injured in their bottoms, as is sometimes probably the case at the Quay by grounding so often, viz. at every tide. — But a much larger dock than at either of the above places was made at a very great expence in the year 1768, by Mr. Champion, farther down the river; which in Jan. 1769 received a 64 gun ship with ease through its gates.

But the largest dock of all for receiving and discharging ships of great burden and laying them up afloat afterwards, was still lower down at a place called Sea or Say-mills on the little river Trim, where ships are admitted with the tide into the dock, capable of containing several score sail afloat always, through very large gates, particularly contrived for the purpose; which being shut down they ride safe moored, and by the help of cranes they were unloaden there into large lighters or boats of burden, and by them the goods and wares were brought up to the merchants store-houses. It was made at the great expence of several private gentlemen, whose families since have been great losers by the project, for the expence attending the keeping the gates and docks in repair, and inconvenience to the merchant of unloading into lighters and having their ships at such distance have made this dock in 1788 little used.

Farther down the river is Hung-road, where is a safe harbour for the large ships, and where many unload into lighters as above: Leland says, "Hunge-road is about three miles lower in the haven than Brightstow, at this

rode be some howfys *in dextra Avon ripa*. About a myle lower is King's rode, and there be also some howfes *in dextra ripa Avonæ*. There is a place almoſte agayne Hungrode cauldyd Portcheſtar, where Hardyng and Roberte his funne had a fayre howſe, and another in Brightſtowe towne. Some thynke a grete peece of the depenes of the haven from St. Vincent to Hunge rode hathe be made by hande: ſome ſay, that ſhipps of very auncient tyme came up to St. Stephanes church in Brightſtowe." As to this laſt, there might have been a wet ditch between St. Auſtin's ſide and the marſh of Briſtol, which the tide might flow up, and ſo bring boats even to St. Stephen's church, which might put the city upon the project of making a quay there afterwards; but it is certain, no ſhips could come up ſo high till that took place, unleſs through the From at Baldwin-ſtreet, &c. Near Hungroad, on the ſouth ſide of the river, are two ſmall branches, called Crockern Pill and Morgan's Pill, where ſhips ſometimes lie, and ſmall veſſels come to an anchor to wait for the tide. On the north ſide of the river, oppoſite almoſt to Crockern Pill, King William 3d. landed, near the village of Shirehampton, Sept. 6, 1690, and went to Sir Robert Southwell's, at Kingſweſton, adjacent to it.

Rowley (in manuſcript *penes me*) ſays, "Hardinge, fadre of Fytz-Hardynge, han fayre and godelie poſſeſſyons atte Porteburie eke ycleped Port Ceastre: Fytz-Hardynge gotte of Hen. 2d. a baileve, a markette, and fayre, on St. Decumbe's day, the fyrſte Mondaie in Whytſon week, the whyche did abyde duryng the whole weeke. Atte thys fayre the bayleve dyd doe homage to the abbot of Seynt Auſtine's yn Briſtowe, who dyd dhyther goe wyth hys brederen to amount of twa hundredth botes: the homage was done by ſpred-dynge hys ſcarlete cloke at the ſlyppe of Creocham, wherebie the abbate dyd londe upon ytte, which homage dyd entytule the bayleeve to hys rule and an homage or oar money of ſhyppes."

Kingroad is reckoned a good open harbour and ſafe anchorage, accidents very ſeldom happening to ſhips that lie there; though to come to it through the Briſtol Channel however ſafe it be with good pilots, is very dangerous for ſtrangers and thoſe unacquainted with it, but by firing a gun for a ſignal, the pill-pilots bred up to the buſineſs and acquainted with every rock or ſand bank, &c. from their youth, puſh out immediately to meet the ſhip and take charge of conducting her ſafe into harbour.

In 1635, a decree paſſed for demolishing all houſes and buildings at Crockern Pill, (except one for paſſing the boat over) which had been erected there by Mr. Morgan, to the prejudice of the city in harbouring bad people there, and deſtroying the poſts for mooring ſhips in the river Avon, which
poſts

posts are placed on the banks of the Avon from Kingroad up to the city, and are kept in repair by the corporation; who in consequence of this decree appointed persons to put it in execution. But Mr. Morgan and his tenants again erected houses there, so that in the year 1656, by letters patent of Oliver Cromwell, the city was again impowered to set up mooring posts, and to demolish the buildings there; but though the mooring posts remain, houses have since been built, and a little town is erected at Pill for the habitation of the pilots and others.

On St. Augustine's side of the city, a mile down the river Avon, is the noted rock of St. Vincent,* which furnishes the naturalist with those beautiful pieces of spar called Bristol stones, and other fossils, corals, and shells, and the more noted fountain of Hotwell water, issuing from the bottom of the rock, which has given to the place the name of the HOTWELLS. William of Worcester mentions the hot spring at Bristol as of note when he wrote, in 1480, and describes St. Vincent's rock and a chapel there and hermitage. — "Fons ibidem una bowshot apud la black rocke in parte de Ghyfton clyff in fundo aquæ, et est ita calidus, sicut lac vel aqua Badonis." p. 185. And in page 223. he again mentions it in the following words: "Fons calidus emanat de profundo aquæ Avyn sicut est Bathoniæ in le rok de Ghyfton clyff in eadem parte in le shole place. Scarlet-welle est directe in parte oppositâ in alta parte de Hungerode emanante de rupe." And p. 105. "Scarlette welle est fons perclarissimus emanans de alta rupe in parte oppositâ aquæ in Dominio de Lye, & est in altitudine in altiori parte de le rok de parte villæ de Lye altitudinis 12 pedum." He thus describes Giant's-hole: "Fox-hole est volta mirabiliter scita super in alto de Ghyfton clyffe super ripam de la rokk altiozem et valde periculosus locus ad intrandam voltam ne cadat in mare profunditatis 60 brachiorum & ultra." He also describes the chapel of St. Vincent in plain English, more intelligibly than in his bad Latin, p. 184. "The halle of the chapell of Seynt Vincent of Gyfton clyff is ix yerdes longe, and the brede 3 yerdys; the length of the ketchyn is ... yerdes (in another place 6 virgæ) the brede of the ketchyn is 3 yardes; and from the chapelle of Seynte Vyncent ys to the lower water 40 vethym, and from the ovyr parte of the mayn grounde londe of the feyd hygh rok downe to the feyde chapelle of Seynt Vincent ben 20 vethym rekened and proved; and so from the hygh mayne ferme londe of the feyde rok downe to the lowest water ground of the channel of Avyn and Froome is 60 vethym and moch more, proved by a yong man of smythys occupation in Radcleff-strete, that feyde yt to me, hath both def-

M 2

cended

* A view of it may be seen in the plate annexed.

centled from the hyghest of the rok down to the water syde." He goes on to describe the chapel of the hermitage as twenty fathom (one hundred and twenty feet) from the firm ground in height, as measured by himself, Sept. 26, 1480, or one hundred and twenty-four steps or thereabout, and situated about the middle of the rock as you ascend to the high ground.

This rock or cliff of St. Vincent is not more remarkable for its amazing height than for its being equally so on both sides of the river, the strata declining to the south and answering on each side alike; a proof they were never broken or disturbed by the violent and irregular motion and disruption of an earthquake, and that the chasm betwixt for the passage of the tide was formed at the deluge, and the rock left in the same separate and divided state it was then split into, when the shell of the earth was cracked through, and the fountains of the abyfs were broken up, according to the true Mosaic account of that great event. It is a very hard marble, or limestone of a peculiar kind, from a dusky red to a light grey, and when polished is beautifully variegated; in the fissures are found those fine crystals, smoothed and formed into angles by nature* as well as by the most skilful lapidary can be done: sometimes they are found inclosed in hollow reddish nodules, which are as it were pregnant with these gems, and contain them as in a safe matrix, which must be broke before you can discover them; these are turned up often by the plow in the fields near Durdham-down and about Kingweston. This rock furnishes the natural philosopher with many curious fossils, the botanist† with some scarce plants, the

* Vid. Braun's description in *Theatrum Urbium*, lib. iv. "On the top of the rock, where it is plain, are so many diamonds, that a ship may be laden therewith." Camden says, "One may get whole bushels of them." — This sure could never be the case.

† A catalogue of the rarer plants, &c. found about St. Vincent's rock, by the ingenious physician and botanist, Dr. Broughton, of Bristol.

PLANTS. — *Veronica spicata*, *scabiosa columbaria*, *rubia peregrina*, *gallium montanum*, *glaux maritima*, *chenopodium maritimum*, *bupleusum tenuissimum*, *smyrnium olusatrum*, *pimpinella dioica*, *scilla autumnalis*, *chlora perfoliata*, *monotropa hypophysis*, *arcuaria rubra*, *sedum rupestre*, *potentilla verna*, *galeopsis ladanum*, *turritis hirsuta*, *arabis stricta*, *geranium sanguineum*, *ornithopus perfoliatus*, *hippocrepis carnosa*, *hypericum montanum*, *erigeron acre*, *viola livida*, *orchis spiralis*, — *apifera*, — *muscifera*, *asplenium ceterach*, *polypodium fragile*.

FOSSILS found here. — STONES, limestone, grey, lead coloured, variegated with spar. — SPARS, irregularly formed, rhomboid, dog-toothed, stalactitic. — FOSSIL CORALS, porous, tubular, lythostrotion, mycetizæ, astroites, lapides juncei.

EARTHS. — Vegetable mould, ochres, deep red or purple, bright red, yellow, pale yellow.

CRYSTALS. — Diaphanous, red, amethystine, yellow.

METALS. — Iron, lead.

MARINE EXUVIÆ. — *Anomia*, *dithyria*, *trochita*, &c.

VIEW OF BRISTOL HOT-WEELL.

Dodwell sculp.





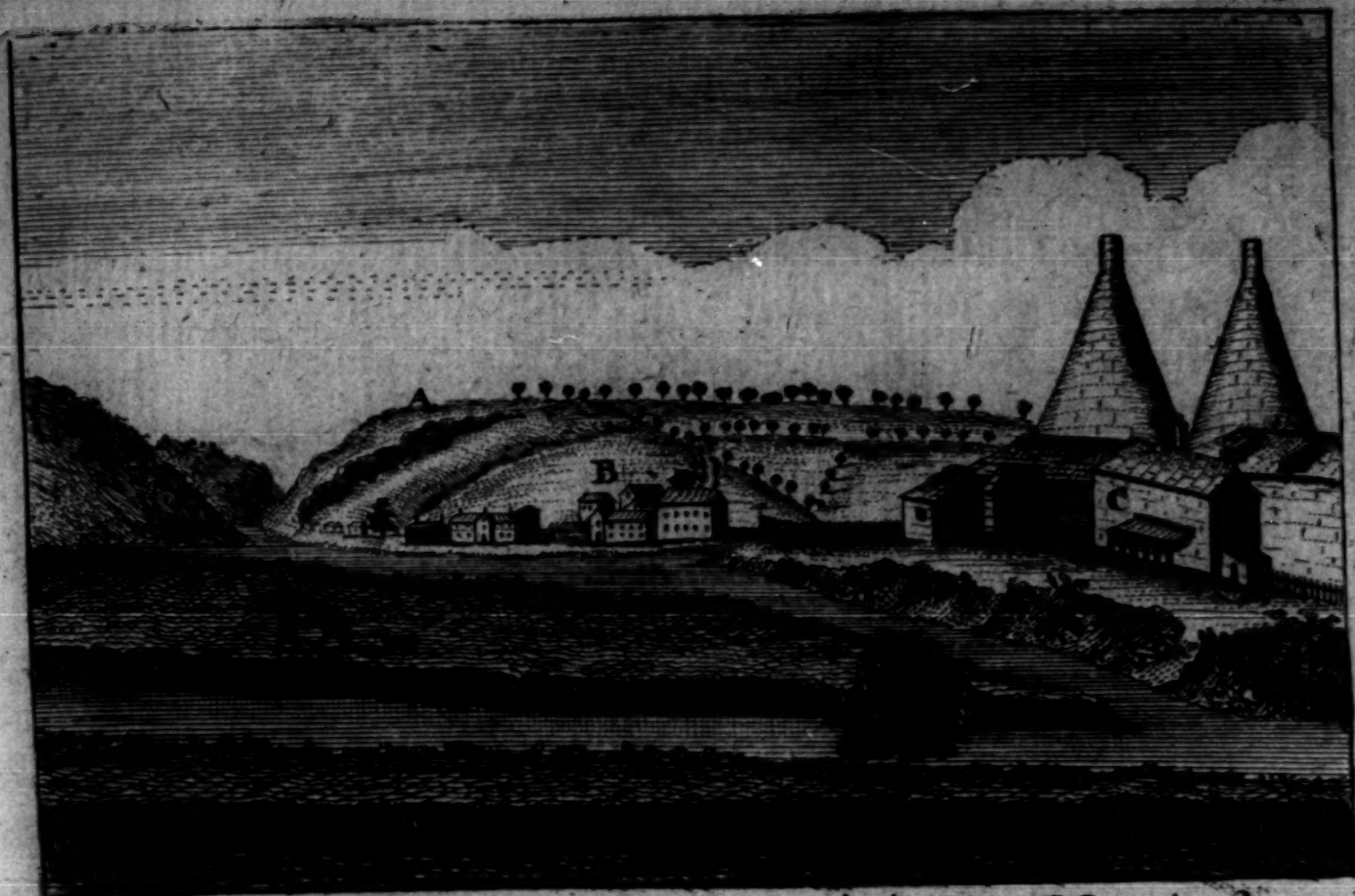
the antiquarian with the remains of a Roman camp,* and the less curious enquirer with a view of the most astonishing and dreadful precipice. It is on the north side, at the bottom of the rock within the channel of the Avon on its bank, the Hotwell spring rises up with some force from beneath, upwards of ten feet above low water and about twenty-six feet below high water mark. The late worthy and ingenious Dr. Randolph, whose excellent treatise on the Bristol water will be admired and held in esteem as lasting as the spring it celebrates, attributes its first reputation to its efficacy in the gravel and stone; but above all in the diabetes, in which it was deemed a specific. About the year 1670, one Mr. Gagg, a baker, in Castle-street, dreaming one night, as he lay despaired of in that disorder, that he had drank plentifully of Bristol water and was wonderfully refreshed by it he was much inclined next morning to quench his thirst with it, and found it to answer his wish so well that by continuing its use in a few days he came abroad, gathered flesh and strength daily, and recovered to the surprize of every one. Though the spring was known in 1480, (vid. William of Worcester) and in 1632 used outwardly for the itch and in old sores with success, by letting the water which then ran down from a wooden pipe upon the pavement fall upon the part, which being thus well washed, they wet a cloth in the water and wrapt it round; yet it was this case of the diabetes that brought it into such reputation, that the city began to think the water worth their care. In 1660, the way was improved and made passable by Rownham to the Hotwell, Kal. p. 198: and in 1691 Sir John Knight, mayor of Bristol, endeavoured to inclose the spring in such a manner that the tide should not mix with it, by raising a stone work round it higher than the tide ever rose; but the weight of the water inclosed endangered the loss of the spring, by altering its course. In 1695, the merchants of Bristol granted a building lease for ninety years at 5 l. per annum to certain proprietors, J. Jones and — Callowhill, to secure the spring, and contrive if possible that the water might be had as well at high as low water; who, finding the spring, made proper foundations for pumps, which now carry the water thirty feet high: the tide water being kept out from it by valves, which open to let the water out, but shut against any that would force itself in. Though this is of great use, yet it has almost set aside the old use of it externally, and prevented bathing in it immediately warm from the spring; a matter perhaps of some consequence, and as beneficial sometimes as its internal use; the spring-head being now so inclosed as not to be come at, the water is pumped into cisterns at a distance, and internally used it may not be quite so efficacious as formerly,

* Vid. p. 18. the plate.

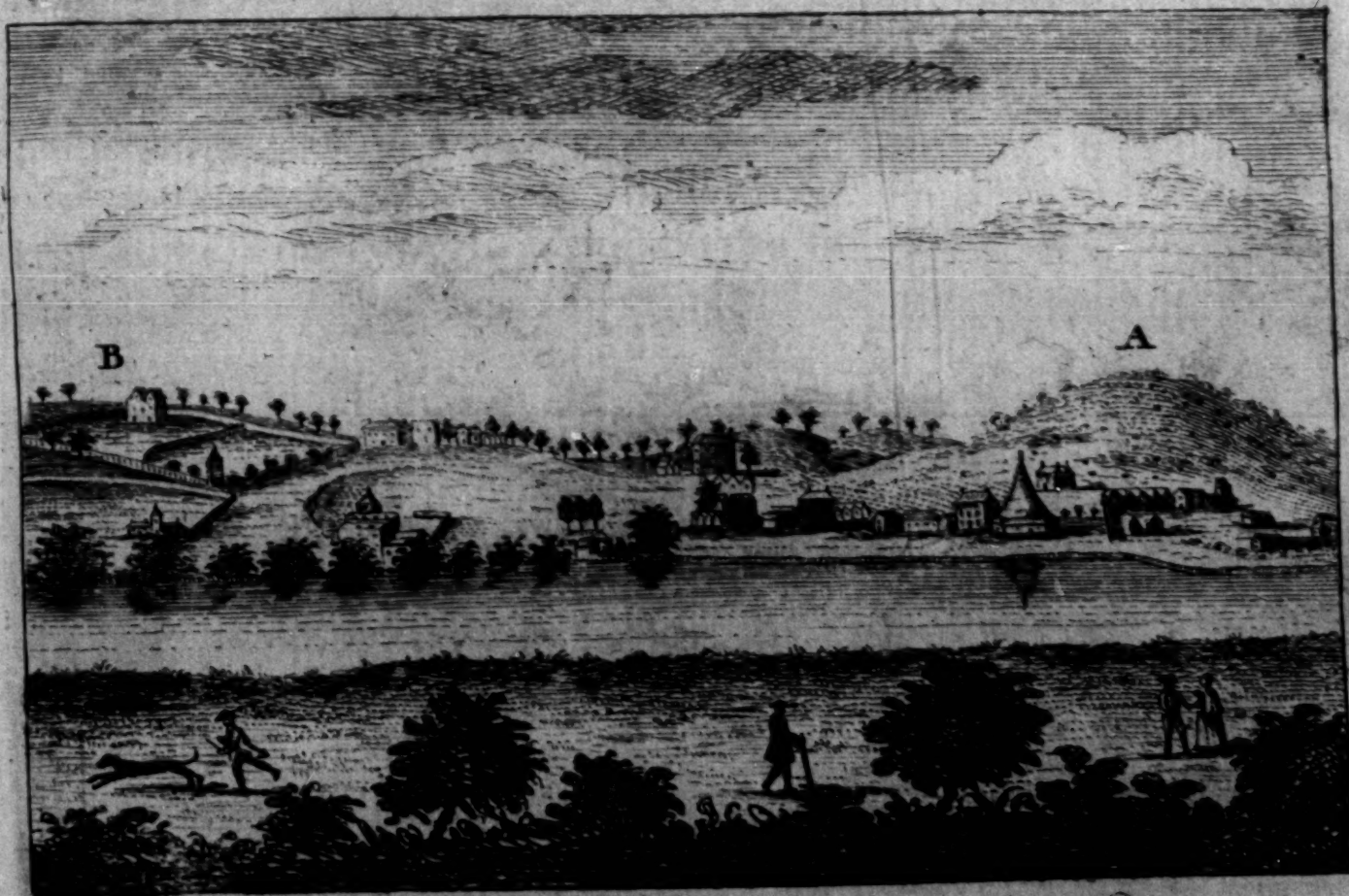
merly, losing no doubt some of its heat in being pumped up, and probably some of its virtue, especially if that depends on an impregnated air contained in the water; which, being very subtle, may soon fly off with the bubbles: the ineffectual analysis of it by many seems to prove some such latent principle in it, not to be arrested or discovered by any art. The celebrated uses of Bristol Hotwell water are, to temper an hot acrimonious blood, restrain hæmorrhages and seminal weaknesses, to cure the hectic fever and sweats, relieve consumptive people if the disease be inveterate, cure them if recent; above all, its virtue in the diabetes has been deemed unquestionable: it may vie with the Selter waters in efficacy. Patients with these complaints in the summer months flock hither from every part of the kingdom, where and at Clifton, a healthy and delightful situation, most elegant lodging-houses and every convenient accommodation for families that arrive can be had at the shortest notice; the pleasant rides on the neighbouring downs, the amusements, the music at the Long Rooms, the balls, assemblies, &c. make it also the resort of pleasure as well as the retreat of the sick and valetudinary. And the buildings lately erected there give it more the appearance of a large town than of lodgings, for the sick alone, and have so increased of late as to join the Hotwells quite to Bristol, by an uninterrupted chain of houses; so that in 1776, on account of the new-erected docks in the Hotwell-road, and additional buildings and inhabitants there, all the south side houses of the said road next the Avon are placed under the civil government of the mayor and corporation of Bristol as far as Rownham-ferry, by an act of parliament for that purpose, and exempted from Gloucestershire as to civil government.

On the south side of the city Bristol has also increased: Redcliff is now joined by late erected buildings to Bedminster; — 'Guinea-street and its neighbourhood is an addition to the former state of this part of it, and the new buildings, in the Addercliff garden there fronting the river Avon now called Burton-street, Canning-street, and Redcliff-parade, are pleasantly situated, and command a most entertaining and striking prospect of the water, of ships coming up and down the river every tide, of the business on the Back, of the whole city, and of the distant country to a great extent on all sides. The erection of several glass-houses, sugar-houses, the brewery and distillery, pottery and other manufactories have made a great accession to this side. The best part of the old outer wall of the city here is to be seen at this day. By two modern built handsome gates, Temple and Redcliff, one built in the year 1736, the other lately taken down, we enter the city from the county of Somerset. On the east-side at this time we are presented

with



A VIEW of S^T VINCENT'S ROCKS with the HOT WELL'S from M^r Warren's House the Opposite South side of the River Avon
A: S^t Vincents Rocks B: the Hot Wells C: M^r Warrens House



A VIEW of CLIFTON and BRANDON HILLS } *A: Brandon hill*
from the South side of the River Avon } *B: Clifton hill*



with quite a new face of things. The castle, once so conspicuous and defensible a fortress, is now quite demolished, and two streets, terminated with a gate erected in 1659, but pulled down in 1767 to widen the road, are laid out with buildings in its stead. The castle orchard is built into a street called Queen's-street where is a gate and arch over a branch of the From, formerly the Sally-port, and at the bottom of it is a ferry for passing over the Avon to Temple side, which when first established in the year 1651 was rented of the Chamber at 40s. per ann. and now at 90l. per. ann. a proof among others how much the inhabitants are increased since that time. St. Philip's also in this neighbourhood is become a large town of itself full of inhabitants; and the large distilleries, plate and bottle glass works, the iron founderies, smelting works and the like, have greatly contributed to its increase.

Having taken a view of the out-skirts of the city, let us now see what improvements of late have taken place in the center. — By purchasing and taking down the old houses there to make room for the erection of the exchange, a convenient space of ground was gained for that and a new market behind it, which before used to be kept in High-street and Broad-street * to the great obstruction of passengers and general inconvenience of the inhabitants; the city was made also thereby much more airy, pleasant and healthful. In the year 1760, an act of parliament was obtained for taking down and rebuilding the old bridge of Bristol and erecting a new one there and at Temple backs, if thought necessary; and opening avenues leading thereto. The increase of commerce, and consequently of inhabitants, the number of carriages of all kinds, drays and horses constantly passing over the bridge, and of boats, lighters, &c. under it, in such a trading city rendered a freer and less interrupted passage here absolutely necessary, and a better communication between the two parts of the city now became indispensibly requisite, accidents daily happening there for want of it, besides the delays occasioned by carriages meeting and obstructing it. So various were the opinions of the commissioners appointed by the act for rebuilding the bridge, that a whole year passed after obtaining the act in disputes whether it should be a one arched bridge or a three arched one, on new or on the old foundations. Architects were consulted, and builders of all kinds; warm contests arose, and parties were formed on this occasion not without weekly publications in the public prints and in pamphlets in defence of their notions, by which the necessary work

* The most ancient market-place for the Gloucestershire side of the city, and for the use of the Castle was in St. Philip's parish; at a place or street still called the Old Market, the old vaults and cellars there, and the Pie-powder Court still held there once a year the 29th September being proofs of it, now remaining.

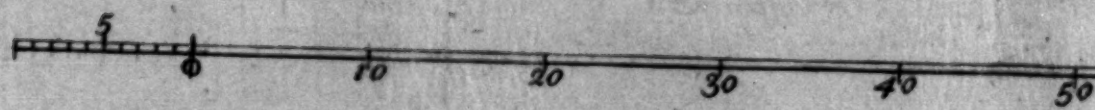
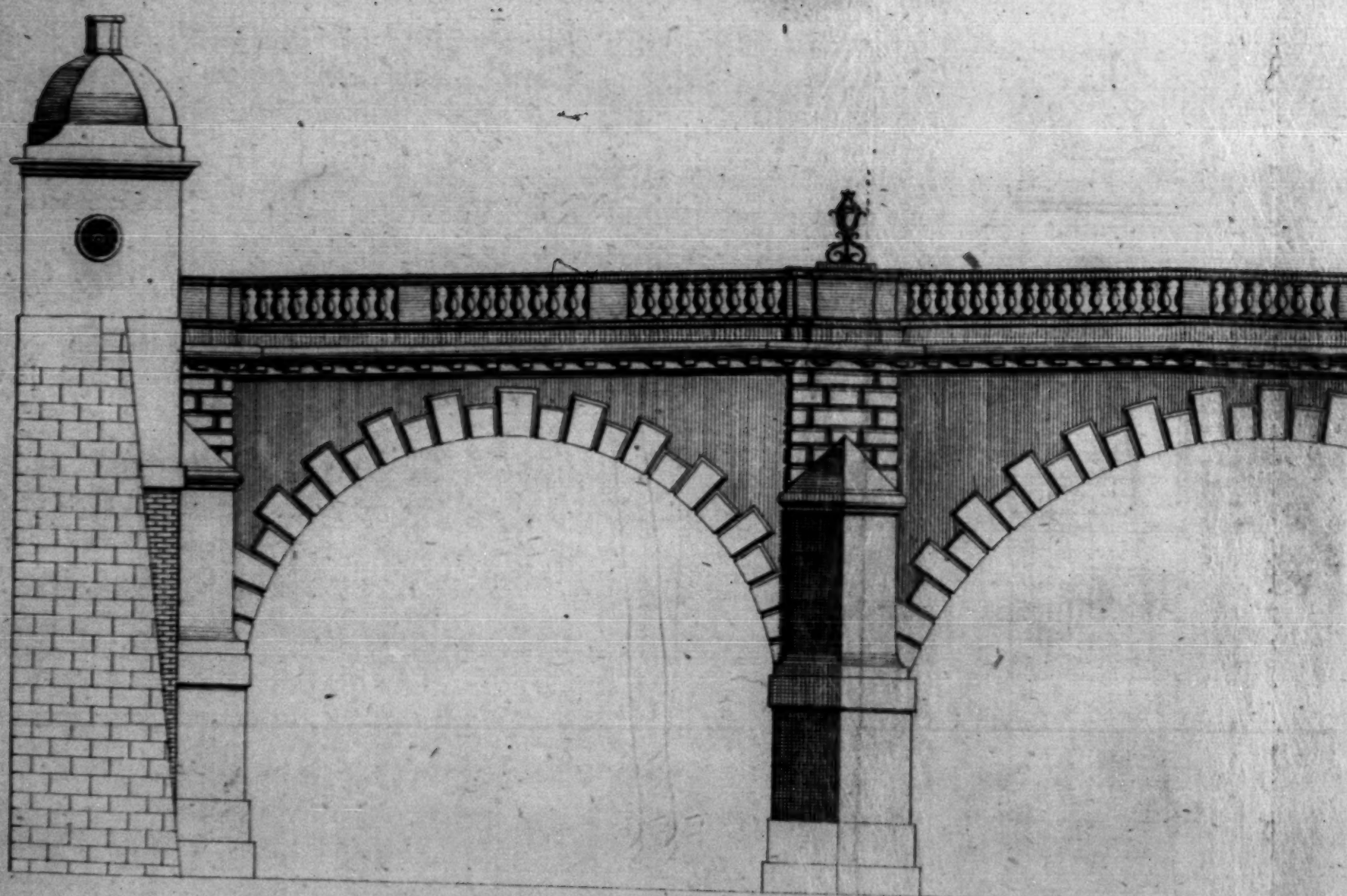
work was greatly protracted, as procuring the act had been before through disagreement in the methods proposed for raising the money to defray the expence; which was fixed at last by a toll taken at the bridge itself, a tax on the houses of the city of 6d. in the pound, half paid by the landlord and half by the occupier, and by a small tonnage on the shipping, and vessels.

A temporary bridge by the side of the old one above it was at length agreed on, and in the beginning of July 1761 they first began taking down the houses and old buildings on the bridge; being first sold with all their materials to the best bidder. The temporary bridge was now in great forwardness, and was opened for the passing of foot people by the end of September, for horses and carriages Jan. 1st 1762, paying certain tolls. Great sums of money were taken up at interest by virtue of the act, and expended in purchasing the houses on the bridge and in its avenues and in the Shambles, which began all to be taken down apace; which gave this part of the city, before very close and dark, quite a different appearance: yet the plan of the building the new bridge was not agreed upon. But after long debates and great expence incurred to architects for their opinions, plans and models, the first design of constructing a three arched bridge on the old foundations was carried by a majority, 45 being for the old foundation, 18 for the new; — which though the most obvious and best scheme for the span of the river and for every other advantage to be expected in the building was frequently changed, and violently censured in comparison of a one arch, yet at last happily preferred and adopted, the masonry of the old piers being found on boring to be very firm and good and adjudged by the examining masons not to be constructed of a casing only of masonry with rubble in the center, but contrary to the notions of some of the architects to be throughout firm and fit for the great incumbent weight of the intended superstructure.

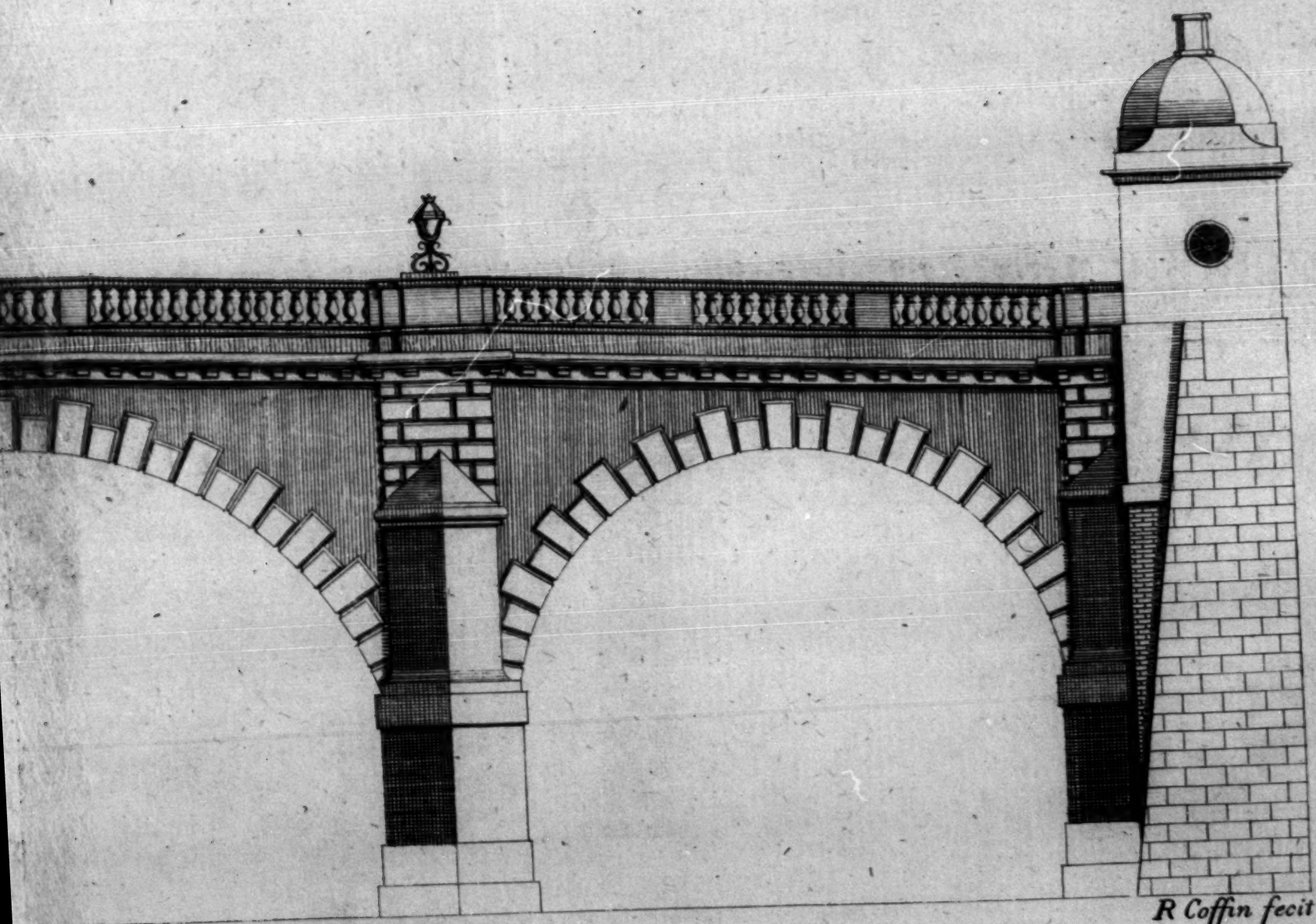
A large quantity of stone of proper size was now laid in, but not without frequent interruption by the tide's not serving, being brought by water from Courtfield in Wales, but the balustrade is of Portland stone. The grand objection of making too steep an ascent, which was justly made against the one arch scheme, is removed by keeping the middle arch as low as could be without injuring the beauty of the bridge, by making it only an ellipsis or segment of a circle, while the side arches are both semicircles, but nothing can give the reader a just idea of the elevation of the bridge without a print of it, which is here subjoined and to which I refer. It was the month of September 1768 before it was finished to be opened for foot passengers, and November for horses and carriages; — for the tolls &c. I refer to the act of parliament.



BRISTOL BRIDGE



E Rebuilt 1768



R Coffin fecit

100 Feet

50

liament. It is not the bridge alone, that adds new beauty to this part of the city, but taking the old ruinous buildings of the shambles down, * and laying out the ground into a new, spacious, handsome street, called Bridge-street, in their stead; erecting new houses in Thomas-street and Redcliff-street, in the avenues to the bridge; constructing the new church and spire of St. Nicholas; filling up the lower part of High-street, and thereby making the ascent, before very great, much easier and more gradual; opening a free and unconfined prospect over the river and into the city and distant country, where the eye before was confined to a dark street (for nothing else was the old bridge with the houses on it on both sides); these, I say, all conspire now to render this a most pleasant spot, as well as an airy and healthy part of the city.

But the great expences incurred in purchasing so many houses at once, with which the old bridge was incumbered, also the whole street of houses on both sides called the Shambles, those in Tucker-street and Redcliff-street, &c. to open the avenues, obliged the commissioners from 1760 to 1769 to take up at interest such large sums of money, amounting to 49,000 l. that, notwithstanding an immense toll collected at the bridge, let out at 1505 l. per ann. in 1788, the duty on houses about 952 l. per ann. and tonnage on shipping about 730 l. per ann. (much complained of by the merchants) it was seven years before any part of the sum raised was advertised by the commissioners as ready to be paid off, being 13,805 l.; and 1783, a farther sum of 10,045 l. was discharged; and 1785, a farther sum of 2000 l.; and June 24, 1788, a farther sum of 7916 l. was discharged, being a third part of the bridge debt then due.

Notwithstanding the immense sum expended on the bridge and avenues to it, and the toll still continuing to the great injury and unequal burden of those on the Somersetshire side, and the other duties so long paid, which were much complained of; yet in 1787, application was again made to parliament to raise more money to purchase the houses on the right side of Tucker-street and in Temple-street, to open a new road or street to be called Bath-street, which though greatly opposed by many was yet carried through the house, and an act granted for purchasing the houses in Tucker-street and St. Thomas-street for that purpose, which is now carrying into execution.

N

Besides

* Shambles, once called Worship-street, as it is in old deeds; and William of Worcester says, p. 170, 189, 237. "Eo quod vicus honoris, &c." because it was a street of honour or dignity, on account of the merchandize of wool landed there, being a port for loading ships, and having the king's cellars," which was proved to be true from the large Gothic arched warehouses discovered next the river, when the shambles were pulled down at this time. This was before any bridge was built, or the Quay made.

Besides the additional beauty and great advantage the city was about to receive from the erection of this elegant new bridge, the spirit of improvement did not stop here; but in the year 1772, the church of St. Leonard, with the arched gateway there called Blind Gate, at the bottom of Corn-street, joining the old wall of the city, and all the houses behind it in St. Stephen's-lane, as far back as the Quay, were taken down, an act of parliament being obtained for that purpose; and a new street laid out on the site of these buildings to make a straight, commodious communication with the Quay on St. Augustin's side from Corn-street, the Exchange, and the center of the city. — The money to the amount of 8000l. to effect this was risen by a subscription amongst the citizens; 500l. was advanced by the Chamber, and 500l. by the Merchant's-hall, and 1000l. lent by Lord Clare, member for the city, towards this useful work: the borrowed sums were to be repaid by a sale of the ground, when cleared for the new buildings; the ground rents of this new street, called afterwards Clare-street were sold in 1775 for above 9000l. This was a very great improvement as it opened a free passage to the Quay, and a ready intercourse with St. Augustin's parish, and led straight to the Draw-bridge. Soon after by the public spirit of the city a new road and street called Union-street, was laid out to open a better communication with St. James's parish from Wine-street, by a bridge across the Frome into Broad-mead, and a new market called St. James's market was established there for the accommodation of that side of the city, and to lessen in some degree the vast concourse of people market days in the center of the city at the market place behind the Exchange, found very inconvenient and troublesome to all who resort to it. The park, called Bullock's park, having also been lately laid out for building two grand new streets of houses called Park-street and Great-George-street, leading from College-green, a new road was hereby opened into Gloucestershire, over Durdham-down: and in 1770 the Bishop's park was also agreed for by Mr. Worrall an eminent Attorney, who procured an act of parliament to enable the Bishop to sell it off for building at a ground rent of 60l. per ann. for 99 years, when the lease expires; and renewals must be then made with the Bishop for the time being: this was called College-street and the buildings began in 1772, and already extend to a great length, though the whole is not yet completed.

New ground also in 1786 is laid out for building a row of houses or crescent in the field above Park-street next Brandon-hill; and above College-street on the other side of that hill a new street of houses leading up the hill out of
Limekiln-lane

Limekiln-lane called Brandon-street, has been built lately in a high and pleasant situation.

By so many additional buildings and whole streets being lately erected, it must be readily allowed to have received a great accession of new inhabitants, and how much it has increased in populousness within these thirty years past is almost incredible. In the year 1757 it is said to contain 13,000 houses in all, and 90,000 souls. Anderson in his Cronological History of Commerce says "in the year 1758 he perambulated the city for two successive days, and from a near examination of the number of houses on new foundations and streets erected since 1751, he cannot but think it contains not less than 100,000 souls, and is as big as London within the walls. Dublin appears more populous in the streets; but it is the residence of the chief governors, of all public officers, guards, nobility and gentry with numerous retinues of people in the streets without being larger than Bristol, where the inhabitants are private families, manufacturers in employ within doors," &c.

Though the number may not be quite so high as here rated, yet it is certainly a very populous city, greatly increased of late years; and though this calculation may be rather too great a number; that made by Mr. J. Browning in the Philosophical Transactions is as much too little. The medium reckoned at about 70 or 80,000 souls may be perhaps nearer the truth.

Houses in Bristol city, besides what are in the suburbs and out of the corporation liberties, which are not reckoned and may be computed at 1000 or upwards.

Houses in Bristol in the several parishes, viz.

Parishes.	Anno 1712.	Anno 1735.	Increase.
St. Nicholas,	380	418	38
St. Stephens,	450	503	53
St. Mary Redclift,	280	402	122
St. Thomas,	302	320	18
St. Cross alias the Temple,	240	380	140
St. James,	682	1407	725
St. Philips,	263	330	67
The Castle Precincts,	260	270	10
St. Peters,	221	230	9
St. Mary Port,	104	104	0
Christ Church,	160	164	4
All Saints,	57	57	0
St. John Baptist,	155	160	5
	N 2	St. Leonard,	

St. Leonard,	-	-	68	-	-	68	-	-	0
St. Werburghs,	-	-	57	-	-	57	-	-	0
St. Owens or St. Ewens,	-	-	27	-	-	27	-	-	0
St. Augustin cum St. Marks,			327	-	-	454	-	-	127
St. Michaels,	-	-	278	-	-	350	-	-	72
			<u>4311</u>			<u>5701</u>			<u>1390</u>

Houses in 1735,	-	-	-	-	-	5701
In suburbs not reckoned, about	-	-	-	-	-	1000
						<u>6701</u>
Additional houses since 1735 to 1788, about	-	-	-	-	-	2000
						<u>8701</u>

Proportionate increase of the following parishes.

	Year.			Number of houses.		Rental.
St. James's,	1744	-	-	1474	-	7173
	1783	-	-	1561	-	8201
St. Mary Redclift,	1744	-	-	504	-	3896
	1783	-	-	571	-	4598
St. Augustin,	1744	-	-	462	-	3585
	1783	-	-	563	-	4628
St. Michael,	1744	-	-	357	-	2256
	1783	-	-	416	-	2359
St. Nicholas,	1744	-	-	409	-	5466
	1783	-	-	362	-	4736

By the list of houses as laid before the House of Commons by the tax officers (which must be of 5l. per ann. or upwards) it appears there are of such in Bristol 3947, Liverpool 3974, Manchester 2519, Oxford 2316. It must however be observed that Liverpool being a new-built city, there may be a greater proportion of houses of the above description than in the very ancient city of Bristol, in which the houses rated under 5l. per ann. must be a very great number.

The whole city is in general well-built, yet has never been burnt down and rebuilt, or ever suffered much by fires: its public halls, and other structures have many of them a good elevation; the exchange * is a fine piece of architecture well proportioned, light and elegant and is a great ornament to the center of the city. That it may not be destitute of places of rational amusement

* The public buildings will be particularly described in the history of the parish in which they are situated.

ment, the *lenimen dulce laborum*, a theatre was built in the year 1766 by subscription, at the expence of 5000 l. and upwards, and is large, spacious, and well contrived for the purpose, and richly adorned both in the painting of the scenes and carving, gilding, and ornaments of the house; and an elegant assembly or music room is erected in Prince's-street, bearing this motto on its front, *Curas Cithara tollit*. At night the city is well lighted with lamps, the signs being taken down their light is not intercepted; and it is provided with a regular watch by acts of parliament passed for these purposes.

No place can be better supplied with all the necessaries of life, and at a more reasonable price. Water is here to be had always the best and in the greatest plenty; public conduits or pumps, supported at the public expence, are here in almost every street. Leland, in his Itinerary, takes notice of this advantageous circumstance, and has enumerated all the conduits in Bristol in his time.

"Conduits *cis pontem*. — St. John's, hard by St. John's-gate.* The Key-pipe, † with a very faire castellet. All Hallow-pipe, ‡ hard by the Calendars, without a castelle. St. Nycholas-pipe, § with a castellet. — *Ultra pontem*. Redcliffe-pipe, || with a castellet, hard by Redcliff church, withewte the gate. Another pipe, without Redcliff-gate, haveing no castelle. Another by porte waulle, without the waulle."

To these I may add St. Thomas-pipe, a feather from Redcliff, for which the parish pay 2s. per annum to Redcliff parish, and are always by a covenant to pay one third part for the repairs of all the pipes leading to Redcliff. Temple-pipe, at Temple-gate; the water formerly brought there for the use of the friers of St. Augustin there. And another pipe at the Neptune in Temple-street, a feather from the former. There are also the following public pumps for the use of the citizens: St. Peter's, the Pithay, and one in Wine-street; for the support of all these, benefactions have been left at different times by well-disposed, charitable citizens.

Besides these conveniencies for the supply of water, that no part of the city should be without this useful element, it was brought in elm pipes from a large pond or reservoir, a mile without Lawford's-gate, to the remote parts of the city

* This spring-head is at the top of Park-street.

† The spring that supplies this rises at Glass-mill, a mile and a half distant, and the water is brought hither in leaden pipes, at the expence of the chamber.

‡ This is in Prior's Orchard, above Maudlin-lane.

§ This water was brought by a pipe from the Key-conduit to St. Nicholas, but on building the new bridge in 1764 was taken down.

|| The spring rises above Lower Knowle, and the water is brought in leaden pipes.

city that stand most in need of it for their families and their bufinesses that require a great supply. This reservoir is filled by a large wheel engine, erected at a place on the bank of the Avon two miles above Bristol bridge. An act of parliament the 7th and 8th of William 3d. passed for this purpose; and in August 1696, Daniel Small, of London, draper, Christopher Fowler and Richard Goddard, of London, merchants, and Richard Berry and Samuel Sandford, citizens of Bristol, on behalf of themselves and others, contracted with the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the city, for supplying and furnishing the inhabitants with fresh water at reasonable rates. These persons, interested in the undertaking, were impowered to dig the ground in order to convey the water through any person's lands, except houses, gardens, and orchards, from Hanham mills or other place, in aqueducts or pipes, with liberty to repair and change the same. The sheriff of the county of Gloucester, by a jury of twelve indifferent men not interested therein, upon examining them upon oath, was to ascertain the damages to be allowed the proprietors of the soil: and every one obstructing the undertakers afterwards were to pay 5l. for every offence, half to the prosecutor and half to the poor of the parish. The undertaking was perfected at a great expence, (the whole being divided into ninety-five shares, at 65l. a share) and water brought thus into the city to its great advantage, especially into such parts of the town as stood most in need of it, at the easy rate of 40s. a year to each family who received it.

But this scheme, not answering the expence of the proprietors, was set aside in 1783, and the machine for raising the water appropriated to the use of a grist-mill there erected: the great supply of water for the use of the citizens from pumps and other public conduits, rendering it the less necessary; and the great expence attending the repair of the engine and the pipes, &c. made it at length of little advantage to the proprietors.

The advantages arising to the inhabitants from having coals in plenty so near the city are very great, as well from its use to families as from the great consumption of it in glass-houses, sugar-houses, distilleries, iron-founderies, and the like. It is brought in by horses and in waggons but a few miles off from the city gates, being risen in great plenty in Kingswood, Bedminster, Ashton, Nailsea, and Brislington. Butter remarkably good and flesh meat, ox beef, veal and mutton, the best of every kind, together with all the produce of the kitchen-garden in great abundance, are to be had at the markets, held every Wednesday and Saturday, behind the Exchange and in Union-street; and fish at the Fish-market twice a week, Wednesday and Friday, in Union-street, besides the salmon, cod, mackrel, herrings, plaice, flounders, oysters,

oysters, sprats, &c. brought to the Back by the boats during the season. A market also is held on the Back every other Wednesday, where the Welch boats, arriving at spring tides, discharge the produce of their country for sale; fine salt-butter, poultry of all kinds, roasting pigs, and geese ready for the spit; fruit, as apples, pears, &c. The great brewhouses and malthouses, the bakers and cornfactors, are furnished with corn and flour by water carriage from the West Country and the fertile vale of Evesham, and the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, and Worcester, which is landed on St. Austin's wharf, at the head of the Quay, out of the trows; or on the Back, where convenient market-houses are built for securing it when landed from the weather, and there exposed to sale every spring tide:—here are also landed great quantities of cyder. Besides these, there was a corn-market in Wine-street, where corn was brought by the neighbouring farmers for sale, now converted into a cheese-market; and a hay-market was established in Broadmead in the year 1786, every Tuesday and Friday. The great market for fat and lean cattle, sheep, and pigs, (great droves of which come in from Wales) is held in St. Thomas-street every Thursday, and is much frequented also by the woollen manufacturers at the season of the year for the purchase of wool, the wool-hall being in this street; of which more particulars in the chapter on St. Thomas parish.

Mr. W. Goldwin, A. M. sometime master of the grammar-school here, in a poetical description of Bristol printed in 1712, after mentioning the market on the Back, and the poultry fold there by the Welch women,

Where cackling geese with cackling females try,
sums up, in the following lines, the plentiful supply of necessaries at our markets:

Here Cornucopia, from her rural stores,
In various shapes luxuriant plenty pours;
Bright Cereal grain and sweet Pomona's fruit,
Or herbage cloath'd in Nature's lovely suit:
Or tender fatlings from the herd or flock
The city's wants with life's refreshments stock,
With thousand dainties of delicious meats,
Which Catius better knows than verse repeats;
The plenteous scenes such vast profusion shew,
As if transplaned fields in cities grew.

It may be just mentioned here, that the dish called elvers, taken notice of by Cambden, though once in great esteem, is at present not much in request at Bristol. They seem to be a kind of very small young eels, skimmed up at the proper season out of the Avon, betwixt Bristol and Keynsham, and duly cleansed, are made up into little cakes or flat bundles, which fried are good and pleasing to the palate. As the markets, in general, are well supplied with all kinds of provisions, of the best kind and in great plenty, the people here may be said very justly to eat well, or live on the best, of which our city feasts, turtle feasts, and all our public entertainments indeed are a sufficient proof.

Bristol hath the privilege of holding two fairs in the year, each to continue eight days, one on the 25th July, in the spacious church-yard of St. James, the other on the 25th January in Temple-street, the times now changed by act of parliament 1761, to the 1st March and 1st September: of the grants of these more particularly in the account of the respective parishes where they are held: here is usually a great sale then of every thing in the woollen manufacture, cloth coarse and fine, rugs, blankets, stockings, &c. for exportation; as also of Birmingham wares &c. from the several manufactories; also leather at the Back-hall, besides all the pageantry of female ornaments, dresses, trinkets, &c. usually displayed on these occasions.

Having thus described the city in general in its present improved state, and cursorily run over its principal parts, referring for particulars to the ensuing chapters, I shall now add, that the circumference of the whole within the liberties as appears by the perambulation round it, (which to preserve its true limits and boundaries, is made annually, at choosing a new mayor) consists of seven miles two quarters and fifty-five perch, and as it may satisfy the curious and inquisitive, the following account is subjoined. *

The

* In King John's charter to the city, the bounds of the city are set down thus, — "The metes of the town are between Sandbrook and Bewell, Brightnee-bridge, and the well in the way to Adelbury of Knoll."

Sandbrook seems afterwards to be described in the perambulation as a certain little brook or sluice called Woodwell's lake, where is a stone on the east part of the said brook.

Bewell in the highway to Henbury where was an old cross called Bewell's cross near St. Michael's hill.

Brightnee-bridge on Bedminster causeway.

The well at Adelbury, was that at Totterdown in the road to Knoll, where the road turns to Bath and there was once a well now filled up, and a city stone is there at present.

The BOUNDS of the CITY on GLOUCESTERSHIRE SIDE.

Stone.

Per. qr.

1. On the bank of the river of Avon, near a limekiln, on the east and a fluice on the west, called Woodwell's-lake, standeth the first stone, - - - - -
2. From the said stone, ascending the lane, crossing the said lake, N. westerly, on the west side of the said lake, or rivulet, is a leading stone - - - - - 10 3
3. From the said stone N. westerly, to a stone on the bank where was a mill to blow lead ore, - - - - - 16
4. From thence N. W. ascending the lane, in the midst thereof, is a leading stone, - - - - - 25
5. From thence, N. W. to a stone standing betwixt Jacob's well and the vault of the conduit, which leadeth to the college, - 11 3
6. From thence N. and by W. to a stone in the corner of a wall, where one Baily dwelt, - - - - - 23
7. From thence, N. to a stone in the hedge of a croft, called Longcroft, - - - - - 32
8. From thence, on the N. side of the lane, ascending the same, to the S. corner of Pucking-grove, and there entring into a ground, called Honey-pan-hill, standeth a great stone, - 30
9. From thence, N. by the hedge and ditch of Pucking-grove, standeth a leading stone in the aforefaid ground of Honey-pan, 30
10. From thence, N. N. W. by the hedge and ditch of the same ground, into a ground, called the Welsh-close, near the W. N. W. corner of Pucking-grove, is a stone, - 25 2
11. From the said stone, N. and by E. to a stone in the S. S. W. corner of little Pucking-grove, - - - - - 8
12. From the said stone, N. E. and by E. to a stone in the E. and by S. corner of little Pucking-grove, - - - - - 18
13. From the said stone, N. W. and by N. to a stone in the N. N. W. corner of the said little Pucking-grove - 6
14. From thence, over the hedge, into a ground called the Furlongs, where beginneth Westbury parish, E. N. E. along by the wall, to a leading stone, - - - - - 11
15. From thence, E. N. E. by the said long wall, to another leading stone, - - - - - 28
16. From

O

12 4

Stone.

Per. qr.

16. From thence, along by the fide-wall, E. N. E. to a stone fixed
on the N. corner of Cantock's, a long flange of ground, cal-
led Spencer's acre, - - - - - 15
17. From thence, E. N. E. to a leading stone in the said ground,
near to the N. corner of a ground belonging to the Maudlin's
or Bartholomew's of Bristol, - - - - - 19
18. From thence, E. N. E. by the said hedge, is a stone fixed in the
E. corner of the same ground, near the highway, which lead-
eth from Bristol to Henbury, - - - - - 8
19. From thence, into the highway, N. W. and by N. to a stone on
the N. W. fide of the way, - - - - - 20
20. From thence, N. W. and by N. to a stone in the S. E. corner
of Bewell's-croft, - - - - - 15
21. From thence, N. W. and by N. along by the hedge of the same
croft, to a stone pitched near the Green-way-grate, on the
N. E. fide of Bewell's-well, - - - - - 17
22. From thence, along the highway, N. E. to a stone on the other
fide of the way, - - - - - 3
23. From thence, back again, to a stone on the high bank, over
against the cross, - - - - - 24
24. From thence, S. E. and by S. along the N. E. fide of the lane,
to a stone at the head of Brampton's-clofe, - - - - - 45
25. From thence, into Brampton's-clofe, N. E. and by E. to a stone
in the midst of the said clofe, - - - - - 21
26. From the said stone, S. E. and by S. to a stone within the bul-
warks, - - - - - 8
27. From thence, S. W. and by W. to a stone pitched on the N.
corner of a garden wall, formerly in the tenure of John
Pester, of the city of Bristol, woollen-draper, belonging to the
heirs of Alderman Jones, and formerly called Mill-lane, and
one Pownesham's wall, - - - - - 14
28. From thence, descending, S. E. to a stone on the S. corner of a
ditch bank in the same ground, near a certain croft called
Prior's-croft, - - - - - 10 2
29. From thence, along by a hedge and ditch, to a leading stone in
the same croft, - - - - - 17
30. From thence, along by the said hedge and ditch to a stone in the
lane, called Maudlin's-lane, leading towards Horfield, - - - - - 16
31. From

Stone.	Per.	qr.
31. From thence, along the said lane, called Maudlin-lane, N. and by E. over a certain mount, called Colston, to a stone in the W. side of the same lane, - - - - -	10	
32. From thence, N. E. to a stone in the ditch or trench of the bulwarks, - - - - -	20	
33. From thence, passing over the works, S. E. to a stone at the corner of a hedge of a close, called St. Werburgh's-close, at the E. corner of the same close, - - - - -	6	
34. From thence, S. W. and by S. by a ditch in the S. E. part of St. Werburgh's-close aforesaid, is a stone fixed in a corner nigh the ditch of a close, called Prior's-close, - - - - -	19	
35. From thence, descending the hill, S. E. and by E. to a stone in the midst of a ground, called the Montagu's, - - - - -	24	
36. From thence, N. E. to a stone fixed in the Montagu's, - - - - -	11	3
37. From thence, descending the hill, to the corner of a ditch, S. E. in the said Montagu's is a stone pitched, - - - - -	8	
38. From thence, along by the said hedge and ditch, N. E. to a leading stone, - - - - -	26	
39. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to a stone in the midst of a ground, near the head of the said ground, called Douce's-croft, - - - - -	34	
40. From thence, descending S. E. and by E. into the lane leading towards Thornbury, to a stone on the W. side of the same lane, - - - - -	20	
41. From thence, by the W. side of the same way, directly N. to a stone fixed on the corner of a ground going up towards Prior's-hill, called Barnfley, - - - - -	46	
42. From thence, E. athwart the way, to a little round hillock, called Apefherd, is a stone on the same hillock, - - - - -	4	
43. From thence, N. E. and by E. along the lane, to a stone fixed in the N. corner of a ditch, called the upper Stoke's-croft, - - - - -	23	
44. From thence, descending S. E. and by S. to a stone pitched on the S. corner of the same ditch, in upper Stoke's-croft aforesaid, - - - - -	29	
45. From thence, N. E. by a ditch of a close, called Meer Furlong to a stone fixed in a corner of the same ditch, called Shuter's-ditch, - - - - -	18	
46. From thence, descending S. E. southerly, to a stone fixed on the W. corner of Long-acre, now called Goose-acre, - - - - -	28	

Stone.	Per. qr.
47. From thence, N. E. by the hedge and ditch, to a leading stone,	23
48. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to another leading stone, - - - - -	9
49. From thence, N. E. by the said hedge and ditch, to a stone on the E. corner of the said ground of Long-acre or Goose-acre,	13 2
50. From thence, N. W. to a stone on the N. corner of the said Goose-acre, - - - - -	2 2
51. From thence, N. E. into a ground, called Long-lands, now Red-furlong, along a hedge and ditch on the S. E. part of the said ground, near Cook's-croft, standeth a stone, -	45
52. From thence, N. W. and by N. by the said Cook's-croft, into the lane, is a stone in the midst of the lane, - -	13 2
53. From thence, N. E. and by E. into a ground called Open-close, near the gate of the N. of Cook's-croft corner, is a stone fixed, - - - - -	24
54. From thence, S. E. by the hedge of Cook's-croft, and on the S. corner of Open-leafe, is a stone, - - - - -	13
55. From thence, N. E. and by N. to a stone near the receipt-house of the Key-pipe conduit, - - - - -	27
56. From thence, round about the conduit, S. E. to a stone pitched on the Ditch-bank of Picked-croft, - - - - -	8
57. From thence, athwart the way, S. E. and by S. to a stone in the corner of a close, antiently called Wrington's-close, - -	2
58. From thence, S. and by E. to a stone fixed, - - - - -	29
59. From thence, S. and by E. to another stone fixed near the causeway, from Bristol to Lokenbrig, - - - - -	11
60. From thence, W. and by S. to a stone pitched on the bank of a certain ground, called Sage's-paddock, - - - - -	8
61. From thence, along the lane, by the S. W. hedge of Old Market-lane, to a stone, - - - - -	52
62. From thence, along the lane, to another leading stone, - -	48
63. From thence, still along the lane, to a stone pitched on the N. ditch-bank of Beggar's-well, - - - - -	37
64. From thence, S. E. by the N. E. part of Ditch's-orchard, to a stone near the flood-gate, on the N. W. of the river From, -	32
65. From thence, along the water of From, on the N. part of the said water, to a stone pitched over against the great ditch, leading towards Lawford's-gate, - - - - -	38
66. From	

Stone.		Per.	qr.
66.	From thence, E. and by S. athwart the river, to a stone pitched on the outside of the said town-ditch, - - - -	4	
67.	From thence, E. S. E. along the outside of the said town-ditch, to a stone in one Townshend's garden, - - - -	37	2
68.	From thence, S. E. and by S. to a stone pitched near the sign-post of the Crown without Lawford's-gate, - - - -	18	2
69.	From thence, athwart the way, S. E. and by S. to the E. corner of a barn, built by one Lord, - - - -	11	
70.	From thence, S. E. and by S. along the lane, to a stone pitched on the corner of a hedge near Enderby's castle, - -	10	
71.	From thence, S. W. westerly, along the outside of the town-ditch, to a stone in the said ditch, near an old square tower, on the S. E. part thereof, - - - -	34	
72.	From thence, still along by the outside of the said town-ditch, W. S. W. to a stone pitched at the W. end of a close, anti-ently called Gold's-burges; this stone is in the cellar where one Harvey dwells, on the Plain, - - - -	35	
73.	From thence, still along W. S. W. to a stone at the corner-house, where one Baldwin dwells, - - - -	21	2
74.	From thence, still along W. S. W. to a stone on the brink of the river Avon, - - - -	14	3

SOMERSETSHIRE SIDE.

1. At Tower-Harratz standeth the first stone.
2. From thence, along by the brink of the river Avon, S. E. south-erly to a stone fixed at the end of a great ditch, called the Hales, - - - - 124
3. From thence, lineally W. by the said ditch-bank, to a leading stone, - - - - 26
4. From thence, by the said ditch, W. to the highway which leadeth from Temple-gate towards Bath, standeth a stone on the E. side of the same way, - - - - 23 2
5. From thence, ascending the lane, by the N. E. side of Newall's, called Pile-hill-bridge; and so down the lane to the eastward, in the way towards Brislington, is a stone fixed on the N. side of the lane, - - - - 89 2
6. From thence, directly to a little well, in the way towards Pensford, over the said well is another stone fixed, - - - - 10 2
7. From

Stone.		Per.	qr.
7.	From the said stone, to a stone fixed on the E. part of the hedge called Adleburyham, and on the W. side of Pensford-way,	2	1
8.	From thence, along by the hedge, on the W. side of the lane, to a stone pitched on the N. corner of Ware-mead, - -	83	1
9.	From thence, over a ditch. S. W. to a stone pitched on the bank of on the W. corner of the same close, - - - -	10	
10.	From thence, N. W. by a hedge and ditch, to a stone on the N. corner of the said mead, - - - - -	24	
11.	From thence, S. W. westerly, to a stone pitched on the S. E. corner of a close, which was of the fraternity of Sattinors,	20	
12.	From thence, N. W. by a hedge and ditch, to a leading stone,	17	
13.	From thence, to a stone N. W. pitched at the head of a lane, called Red-lane, - - - - -	22	
14.	From thence, S. W. to a stone in Redcliff-field, at the head of Ergle's-croft, - - - - -	14	2
15.	From thence, S. E. to a stone at the E. corner of Ergle's-croft,	14	
16.	From thence, S. W. to a lane which leadeth from Knoll to Redcliff church, on the W. side of the said lane, is pitched a stone, - - - - -	13	
17.	From thence, by the hedge and ditch up the lane, N. W. to a stone pitched on the S. E. corner of Redcliff churchyard, near the houses called Cathay, - - - - -	29	
18.	From thence, descending Cathay-lane, S. and by W. to a stone pitched on the corner of Long-croft of the master of St. John Baptist, - - - - -	49	
19.	From thence, along the hedge, W. to the N. corner of the Mayor's-acre, - - - - -	17	
20.	From thence, S. W. and by S. to a stone standing upon the bank of a watering pool, in the midst of a ground called St. George's-close, - - - - -	14	
21.	From thence, W. N. W. to the highway which leadeth from Redcliff church towards Bedminster, to a stone on the S. E. part of the same way, - - - - -	13	
22.	From thence, S. W. and by S. by the same ditch to a stone pitched on the midst of Brightnee-bridge, - - - -	31	
23.	From thence, athwart the way, W. and by S. into Catherine-mead, to a stone pitched on the W. corner of Cardiff-croft,	14	2
	24. From		

Stone.	Per.	qr.
24. From thence, N. E. and by N. to a stone fixed on the E. corner of Catherine-mead, - - - - -	53	2
25. From thence, N. W. to a stone on the N. corner of the said Catherine-mead, - - - - -	30	
26. From thence, S. W. and by W. by an old ditch, to the head of the pool of Trene-mill, to the brink of the water called Bishop's-Worth-brook, at the W. head of the same ditch, is a stone, - - - - -	22	
27. From thence, N. W. and by N. athwart the water, to a stone pitched in the S. E. corner of Shepherd's-close, which did belong to the abbot of St. Augustine's of Bristol, - - -	12	
28. From thence, lineally N. E. to a stone pitched on the Mill-bay,	27	2
29. From thence, N. N. W. to a stone pitched on the bank of the river Avon, near the same mill, - - - - -	12	

The City is in Circumference

	Miles.	Qrs.	Perches.
Glocestershire side, - - - - -	4	2	37
Somerfetshire side, - - - - -	2	2	18
To Rownham, about - - - - -	0	2	0
Total - - - - -	7	2	55

To the former perambulation is now added all the ground on the left hand on the bank of Avon, leading from Limekiln-dock towards the Hotwells, as far as a stone fixed at the ferry called Rownham-passage; all the houses on that side for half a mile being within the liberties of the city by act of parliament, and the inhabitants subject to it as to civil government, and separated from Glocestershire. Add to this, beyond the city bounds a town has arisen in St. Philip's without Lawford's-gate, consisting of many streets there, and on St. Philip's-plain; and in the out-parish of St. James, on Prior's-hill, &c. out of the bounds of the city, are many streets of houses, all which are in the jurisdiction and government of the justices of peace for Glocestershire.

The following plans of the city, views and engraved prints of many admired and striking parts of it and places near it, have been published at different times;—for the entertainment and satisfaction of the curious in these things a list is here subjoined: a proof that Bristol and its pleasant environs have caught the eye and engaged the attention of the curious, and been thought worthy of being described by drawings and copper-plate prints, though

though the history and antiquities of it have hitherto been so little noticed, and a particular description of the whole has never before been offered to the public.

1. Bristol, from Lundy island to Kingroad, including the river Avon, by Capt. Collins.
2. Bristol Channel, from the Holmes to Kingroad, including the river Avon, by Charles Price Heath.
3. The river Avon, from the Severn to Bristol, surveyed by G. Collins.
4. Bristol city, a plan printed about the year of our Lord 1570 in a book, called *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, Hoëfnagel sc.
5. Another plan, taken from the corner of a map of Gloucestershire, one of Mr. Speed's maps.
6. Another plan, James Millar delineavit et sculp. 1671.
7. Another by the same, with some additional buildings represented in the margin
8. Another surveyed and drawn by John Rocque, engraved by Pine, 1742.
9. A view of Bristol, by James Millard.
10. Another, very small and neat, two inches long and one inch and a quarter wide, by Hollar.
11. A north-west prospect of Bristol, large, by S. and N. Buck, 1734.
12. A south-east view, by the same.
13. A view of the Drawbridge, by Halfpenny, Mynde sculpt.
14. A north-west view of the High Cross, with the Cathedral, and St. Augustine's Church.
15. A view of part of Queen-square, by Halfpenny.
16. A north prospect of the Cathedral, by Smith.
17. Another ditto, by King.
18. Another ditto, by Harris.
19. Plan of the Cathedral, Harris sculpt.
20. A view of the High Cross by itself, Buck del. et sc. 1734.
21. Mr. Colston's Hospital on St. Augustine's-back and Almshouse on St. Michael's-hill, (sold by Benj. Rome) with an account of his charities.
22. The Infirmary, plan and elevation, by Halfpenny, 1743.
23. Another small one, W. Milton del. et sc.
24. A plan of the country eleven miles round Bristol, from actual survey by B. Donn, 1769.
25. A view of the Hotwells nigh Bristol, Milt. sc. impensis S. Pye Chirutg.
26. Another by Smith, printed by Palmer.

27. A small plan of the City, by Donn, 1773.
 28. A small plan of the Cathedral, in aqua tineta, 1785.
 29. A view of Clare-street, the Drawbridge, St. Stephen's Church, and All Saint's Church, in aqua tineta, 1785.

I shall close this chapter with the following general description of the city in Latin verse.

Cingitur urbs muris, muros cingentibus altis
 Fossis, et fossas unda proterva replet.
 Has iterum cingunt viridantes gramine campi
 Et fata, quæ cereris munere pressa patent;
 Rura replent pagi, quæ rupibus horrida nullis
 Vel sylvis, nulla fæda palude, virent.
 In medio duplex sedet URBS CELEBERRIMA portus,
 Turrigerum tollens culmen in astra suum:
 Extendens binos super amnes æmula pontes,
 Fornicibus magnis flumina magna premens:
 Vela hinc dant ventis rostratæ turgida puppes,
 Huc iterum plausu cassis onusta redit:
 Huc oriens merces, merces occasus et omnis
 Per mare, per terras advehit orbis opes:
 Unde fit emporium, cui qui commercia callent
 Empturi properant undique turba virum;
 In patriasque suas redientes, omnibus urbis
 Præstantis narrant haud mediocre decus;
 Cunctaque mirantes, quibus haud satiantur ocelli,
 BRISTOLIÆ, dicunt, non reticendus honos:
 Urbs etenim celebris, spatiosa, fidelis, amæna,
 Dulcis et insignis, prisca, benigna, nitens;
 Jura, Deum, regem, regionem, crimina, pacem,
 Servat, adorat, amat, protegit, odit, habet.

C H A P. V.

Of the CIVIL GOVERNMENT and OFFICERS of the CITY.

BRISTOL is dignified with the honourable title of an Earldom, John Lord Digby * being first so created by King James 15th September 1622, which the noble family of the Harveys † now enjoy. It has the highest marks of honor granted to magistracy, ‡ scarlet gowns, § sword, mace, and cap of maintenance; and the following officers, an high steward, recorder, town clerk, steward of the sheriffs court, chamberlain, two coroners, a sword bearer, water bayliff, clerk of the market, key master, eight serjeants of the mace, and other inferior officers in daily waiting: they hold a daily sessions in the council house (rebuilt in an elegant manner in the year 1705) to hear complaints and accommodate differences, make orders, take bail and commit offenders, besides their more stately courts of judicature at the guildhall (a place of great antiquity) for trial of causes of all sorts, both criminal and civil, and twice a year a general goal delivery is held. The town clerk, who must be qualified in knowledge of the laws of England and a barrister three years at least, presides as judge of the court of quarter sessions four times a year to be held by any three aldermen, whereof the mayor or recorder for the time being must be one, or two of the five senior aldermen are to be two. A court is also held by the sheriffs; and the steward of the sheriffs court must

* His arms are f. azure a fleur de lis argent with a mullet for difference.

† Arms are G. on a bend argent three trefoils slipped vert.

‡ Gown-days, when they appear in scarlet robes with the insignia of office are, the Tuesdays in the next week after Michaelmas, Epiphany, Easter, and after the 1st July being sessions, also Michaelmas day, and every law-day: also when they go to certain churches to hear the gift-sermons; also on the 5th November and 29th May, when they go to the Cathedral attended by the city companies with their colours and arms displayed.

§ There are four swords — an old one with embroidered sheath, on it is wrote —
John Willis of London Maier,
Gave to Bristow this sword faire.

A mourning sword with these mottos, — Statutum est hominibus semel mori, — Memento mori. Another plain one, and one large massy one with a sheath of scarlet and gold, highly embellished, usually carried before the mayor on public days and festivals by the sword bearer.

must have the same qualification as the town clerk. By an order 1605 the recorder, town clerk and steward were not to be elected yearly but continue in their offices as they heretofore have done. By the charters they were all to continue in office for life, but by that of Queen Ann as long as they behaved themselves well. The mayor, aldermen and common council have the custody of the city seal, on which are cut the city arms; this seal is fixed to all warrants, deeds, &c. A writ directed by Queen Elizabeth in the following words, point out the several courts held by the corporation of Bristol; the Staple-court, Tolzey-court and the Pied-powder-court: thus Majori, Aldermannis, & Vice-Comitibus Civitatis seu Villæ Bristollia; ac Majori & Constabulariis Stapulæ ejusdem Civitatis; nec non Ballivis Maioris & Communitatis ejusdem Civitatis Bristollia Curia suæ Tolesey, ac Ballivis dictorum Majoris Civitatis Curia suæ *pedis pulverizati*, & eorum cuilibet.

HIGH STEWARDS OF BRISTOL.

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| 1540. The Duke of Somerset. | of Canary and half a ton of |
| 1546. Edward Earl of Hertford. | Gascoign wine ordered him, |
| 1549. Sir William Herbert. | as a present. |
| 1570. Robert Earl of Leicester. | 1708. Duke of Ormond. |
| 1648. Sir Henry Vane, junr. Knt. | 1756. Lord Chancellor Hardwicke. |
| 1651. Oliver Cromwell, with a salary
of 5l. per ann. and a pipe | 1786. The Duke of Portland. |

RECORDERS OF BRISTOL.

The name of recorder occurs the first time the 18th Edward 3d.

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| 1344. William de Colford. He drew
up an account of the customs
of the city, and the oaths to
be taken by the several offi-
cers, mayors, sheriffs, &c. | 1505. William Glenville. |
| 1394. Simon Oliver. | 1517. John Fitz-James. |
| 1430. Richard Newton. | 1541. David Brook, serjeant at law. |
| 1439. Sir John Inyn, Knight, chief
justice of the Common Pleas. | 1549. Robert Kelway. |
| 1463. Thomas Young, declined 7th
Edward 4th. | 1551. Mr. Hippisly, died 1570. |
| 1468. Michael Harvey. | 1552. John Walshe, Esq; |
| 1483. John Twynyho. | 1571. John Popham, Esq; resigned. |
| 1500. John Greville. | 1585. Thomas Hannam, died 1592. |
| | 1592. Sir George Snigge, Knt. one
of the barons of the Exche-
quer, died Nov. 11, 1617. |
| | 1604. Sir Lawrence Hyde. |
| | 1615. Nicholas Hyde, Esq; |
| | 1640. John |

- | | |
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| 1640. John Glanville. | 1735. Sir Michael Foster, Knt. chief justice of the Common Pleas. |
| — Edmund Prideaux, Esq; | |
| 1645. Serjeant Whytlocke, | 1764. Daines Barrington, Esq; resigned. |
| 1655. John Doddridge, Esq; | 1766. John Dunning, Esq; a noted pleader at the bar, <i>quoquo jure quaquâ injuria</i> , and for the Americans in the House of Commons: he was created Lord Ashburton, and died soon after. |
| died 1658. | |
| 1658. John Stephens, Esq; | |
| 1663. Sir Robert Atkins, resigned. | |
| 1682. Sir John Churchill, Knt. | |
| 1685. — Paulet, Esq; | |
| 1704. Sir Robert Airs, resigned. | 1783. Richard Burke, Esq; brother to the late member. |
| 1727. John Scroop, Esq; resigned. | |

TOWN CLERKS OF BRISTOL.

This office is very antient here, and requires no explanation. By an order of the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, residence is enjoined him, that he may always assist the mayor and aldermen with his advice, draw up orders of counsel, &c.

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| 1463. Thomas Ofenby. | 1687. Nathaniel Wade, Esq; |
| 1479. Robert Ricaut, author of the Mayor's Calendar, now extant in manuscript. | 1688. John Rumsey, Esq; restored, died 1720. |
| 1503. Thomas Harding, Esq; turned out for extortions in his office. | 1721. Henry Blake, Esq; |
| 1514. Robert Thorn, Esq; a great benefactor to the city. | 1731. Sir William Cann, Bart. |
| 1540. — Fitz-James, Esq; | 1753. Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. resigned, on account of his ill health, 1786. |
| 1554. — Maudlin, Esq; | 1786. James Kirkpatrick, Esq; who died of a fever in London the same year he was elected. |
| 1640. James Dyer, Esq; | 1787. Samuel Worrall, Esq; |
| 1653. Robert Oldworth, Esq; | |
| 1676. John Rumsey, Esq; displaced 1687. | |

CHAMBERLAINS.

The office of chamberlain was at first executed here by the prepositors, seneschalls, and bailiffs successively, and was neglected, to the damage of the town, by their daily attendance upon other affairs; but they were discharged of the care of the public buildings, &c. by ordinances, 33d Hen. 6th. which was committed to the two chamberlains appointed 35th Henry 6th.; but one only was instituted to that office by ordinance, 20th Feb. 9th Edward 4th. to whom

whom it belonged by special appointment to receive all rents and other profits of the city chamber, except burges money, fish money, and the profits of the common hall and castle mills: and he was to have a collector under him to account before auditors, and to have eight marks wages. (Great Red Book of Bristol, p. 214.) But the 15th Henry 7th. the office was more fully settled by charter, by which the mayor and common council were to choose a burges of the town for chamberlain to hold, *durante beneplacito*; he is to take his oath for the faithful discharge of his office; is to have a perpetual succession, with a seal of office with the same power as the chamberlains of London; to receive all the revenues of his office, and out of the same to expend for the use of the mayor and commonalty, rendering account one month after the feast of St. Luke, fully and truly before the mayor and aldermen, or two burgesses appointed by them, and the like account a month after he shall be removed from his office. By the increase of the public lands and stock of the city by gift and purchase, the chamberlain's business is vastly enlarged, and it demands more than common attention and care to pursue it with propriety; whence a very able and diligent as well as upright man has been judged necessary for the office, and his stipend has been enlarged, as a greater variety of business has devolved on him. And that the interest of the city may be duly secured under his management, upon being chosen he subscribes a declaration, that he holds the chamberlain's office, determinable the second Wednesday in December after his election, and he does not pretend a right to a freehold therein, and also signs a bond of 3000l. to perform duly his office and obey the articles made November 1698.

1306. John de Cheddre, camerarius villæ Bristolæ.

1469. Henry Dale, at eight marks wages, and to have a collector under him.

1507. David Leylon.

1551. John Seybright.

1564. Thomas Hickes.

1566. John Willis, Esq; a very rich man, said to be the best chamberlain ever known; by his care and partly at his charges causeys, seven miles round the city, were made: his administration of the city reve-

nue were not only irreproachable, but he impaired his own fortune by his various charities; and being reduced, that he might not be chargeable to the city, he got removed to the wardenship of the Back-hall, in which post he died, much lamented by all good men.

1582. Robert Halton, Esq; died soon.

1584. Nicholas Thorn, a great merchant and charitable benefactor.

1603. Thomas Pit, Esq; died May 4, 1613.

1614. Nicholas

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| 1614. Nicholas Meredith, Esq; | 1707. Thomas Thurston, Esq; |
| 1639. William Chetwyn, Esq; | — James Holledge, Esq; |
| 1650. James Powel, Esq; recom-
mended by Oliver Cromwell. | — Christopher Willoughby, Esq;
died June 4, 1773; and was
succeeded by |
| 1670. William Hasel, Esq; died Aug.
30, Charles 2d. | 1773. Richard Hawkswell, Esq; the
present chamberlain. |
| 1681. John Cooke, Esq; | |
| 1702. Edward Tocknel, Esq; | |

STEWARDS OF THE SHERIFFS COURT.

1711. Nathaniel Wade, Esq;
1731. Edward Brown, Esq;
1760. Rowles Scudamore, Esq;

The civil government of this city has been variously modelled, and has undergone several alterations at different periods of time, as will appear more particularly in the subsequent annals; in which will be given a correct list in regular order of all officers whither under the denomination of præpositus villæ or prepositor, mayor, seneschall or steward, bayliff or sheriff.

Bristol was certainly at first under the government of the lord of the castle, or his deputy the custos or constable of it, in the time of the Anglo-Saxon earls of Gloucester to whom Bristol belonged, and who appointed the præpositus villæ: and for a long time after the conquest, when by the great increase of the town it was necessary for the people and their good government to have its governor or chief officer within itself, he always used to take his oath and charge of office at the castle-gate of the constable there; a good proof, that at first the sole government had been in him.

The earliest title mentioned in an authentic record of any one that bore rule in this city, is to be found in Doomsday-book, T. E. Confess, — wherein the præpositus de Bristou is named SHERUINUS, as holding a manor in Gloucestershire in the time of King Edward the Confessor; and doubtless the prepositor was in early times an officer of judicial authority: whence in the charter of King John the officer named therein provost, is in the original præpositus. This name of office changed into mayor (at whatever period is uncertain) till Edward 3d's. time he was sworn in before the constable of the castle, but by the charter of Edward 3d. (though it does not appear therein when the election of mayor devolved first on the commonalty of the town) it is ordained that after the burgeses had chosen their mayor, the new elected mayor should at the guildhall take his oath and receive his charge of his predecessor before the commonalty there assembled, and it so continues.

The

The following was the order in which the several officers by name took place here successively.

1. A prepositor under the custos of the castle till the year 1215.
2. A mayor and two prepositors which continued from 1215 to 1266.
3. A mayor and two seneschalls till 1313.
4. A mayor and two bayliffs till 1372.
5. A mayor, sheriff and two bayliffs till 1500.
6. A mayor and two sheriffs chosen annually, by whom it hath been governed unto this day.

The city was divided into six wards under the government of six aldermen (of whom the recorder was always one) by charter of Henry 7: what are now called wards were formerly called quarters, of which there were five within the walls, Quarterium St. Trinitatis, quarterium Beatæ Mariæ in Foro, quarterium omnium Sanctorum, quarterium St. Audæni et quarterium de la Redclive: all which paid 4l. os. 5½d. for the landgable to the King; for landgable without the walls 1l. 19s. 7d. It was 23d. Elizabeth 1581 divided into twelve wards and empowered to choose twelve aldermen, the recorder being one and the senior alderman, who is to be well skilled in the laws of the land, and a barrister for the space of five years at least. They are to be sworn before the mayor, and are appointed conservators and justices of the peace with the same authority and powers as those of London; and any three or more of them, of whom the mayor and recorder are to be two, may hold a court of general goal delivery, &c. and enquire into the damages of the crown. They have also power to chuse thirty common council men, out of which are elected annually the 15th September two sheriffs, who are sworn into their office the 29th with the mayor in public before the commons of the city. The whole common council are to consist of forty-two of the better and more discreet citizens, besides the mayor for the time being, the recorder being an alderman and included in that number. They are to assemble yearly before the 15th September, and the major part by their suffrages are to choose and fill up any vacancy so that the number forty-two besides the mayor be always compleat; to make such reasonable laws &c. in writing as may be good, profitable, necessary, and honest for the good government of the city, to levy such fines and penalties as shall seem expedient and requisite to enforce the due observation of such laws; to fill up the vacant offices of recorder, sheriff, common council man, common clerk, steward of the sheriffs court and coroner; some to continue their respective offices as long as they

they behave themselves well, others during life; to alter the time or places of any markets ever held or to be held within the city, to make by-laws for their proper regulation &c. provided they are not contrary to the statutes of the realm, &c. Many other privileges and great immunities have been granted to this city by different Kings from the time of King John to the late Queen Ann, who ratified and confirmed all their franchises and liberties and hereditaments whatsoever heretofore used or enjoyed by reason of any prescriptions, charters or letters patent, made and granted by any of her ancestors to the mayor burgeses and commonalty of her city of Bristol, as from the charters, abstracts of which will hereafter be inserted, will more evidently appear.

Great form is observed in election of the mayor on the 15th of September annually; for then the whole body corporate is convened at the guildhall on that occasion. The mayor elect is brought home by the old mayor and the council, attended by all the officers; the sword bearer carrying the great sword: those that have passed the chair, dine with the mayor and the rest of the common council divide and dine at the two sheriffs. After dinner on election days the mayor elect invites the company to his house, and the sheriffs elect invite the company they dine with to their houses. Afterwards they meet in one body and visit the mayor elect, upon whose coming the old mayor's company withdraw. Saturday after the election the old mayor shews the mayor elect the market, and Sunday they all attend in procession to the mayor's chapel, the mayor wearing his fringed gloves, and in the afternoon the mayor elect waits on the old mayor to his parish church. If the mayor rides not round the city bounds, as hath been the custom, the chamberlain and town clerk or their officers with the city mason and city carpenter are sent round to see that the boundary stones and marks are not removed.

The 29th September is the day on which the mayor and sheriffs elect are sworn; when they appear in scarlet with the council in guildhall. When the mayor is sworn, the sword bearer delivers the sword first, then the cap of maintenance into the hands of the old mayor, who presents them together with the seals of office to the new, both kissing them, and the sword bearer then receives the sword from him, when the old mayor gives place to the new.

The old mayor used formerly to stand up in the court to take his farewell of his brethren and the commons in a short speech, the form of which shews the honesty, uprightness and simplicity of our ancestors; part of it, as it proves how much they acted upon just principles, must not be omitted: addressing

dressing himself to the commons there assembled in Guildhall, he said: " I heartily pray you, if there be any of you who by my negligence, uncunning or wilfulness, have been wronged or hurt in any wise, by colour of my late office, or if I have done to any person otherwise than of right, law, or conscience, come to me and shew your griefs; I am ready to make you amends, if my goods will thereunto suffice, or else I will ask you forgiveness, so that you shall be well contented and pleased." — These are expressions so truly generous, liberal, and honest, that they deserve to be recorded for future imitation. This custom is discontinued now, and instead of it the mayor only takes leave of his brethren the aldermen and other officers, by thanking them for their assistance to him in the discharge of his duty, in a short compliment addressed to them.

The mayor has 120l. paid by four quarterly payments for his kitchen, and out of every ship arriving at the Key, being sixty tons and upwards, (which in the year 1708 to 1709 was 70 sail, but in September 1764 all the ships amounted to 2353 entered inward at the Custom-house, so much has the trade increased) 40s.; for every bill or letter of health on a ship's account, 2s. 6d.; for his pocket-feal to every affidavit, certificate, or deposition, 6d.; for the sealing of every lease, 4s.; besides a good gratuity for making some one person a free burghers of the city. And Mrs. Mayoress has 20s. to buy her a muff, and 40s. per annum out of a piece of ground, called the Mayor's Paddock, which formerly used to yield her 10l. The mayor's salaries and perquisites are now much advanced; from the 40s. alone for every vessel arises to him a large sum. But as the income to the mayor varied so much at different times, for the better and more regular support of his dignity it was agreed 1777, that he should be allowed 1000l. during his mayoralty, and the sheriffs 500l. each for their expences, whether their perquisites produced so much or not. * The mayor has the custody of the city plate, and a bond used to be given to the chamberlain of the city of 250l. by every mayor elect, for safely redelivering the plate: a silver cup with its cover, weight thirty ounces, double gilt, given by Mr. William Bird; one silver cup and cover, double gilt, weight thirty ounces, given by Mrs. Elizabeth James, wife of Dr. James; one basin and ewer of silver, double gilt, weight eighty-six ounces and a half; one other covered cup and a skinker, both of silver, double
Q
gilt,

* Great disputes have arisen lately concerning the town-dues, which used to be paid the sheriff for the support of his office. Among the records of the term of Michaelmas, 18th Henry 8th. rot. 18, ex part. rememb. regis, by virtue of statute 9th Henry 7th. Anthony Bridgegood, Nov. 12, put in his bill and information before the barons against Robert Elliot, late sheriff, for distraining four packs of canvas and lokerams, &c. imported by A. B. and obliged him to pay 8d. for keyage of the same. Elliot pleaded, that there had been time out of mind and still was a

gilt, weight sixty ounces, given by Mrs. Kitchin Searchfield, deceased, sometime the wife of Mr. Thomas Green, and late the wife of Mr. John Boutcher, alderman; one other silver cup with its cover, double gilt, weight sixty-six ounces, given by Mr. George Smith, deceased, citizen and alderman of London; one silver salt, with its cover double gilt, weighing forty-eight ounces and a quarter, given by Mrs. Mary Burroughs widow, late wife of Mr. William Burroughs merchant deceased; to be and remain from year to year for ever in the custody of the mayor of Bristol for the time being, as a perpetual memory of the givers, and the mayor is to have the use thereof only during his mayoralty, all to be delivered to the succeeding mayor on the 28th of September in St. George's chapel. The mayor gives bond to the chamberlain for the money for his kitchen, lent him interest free, given by some benefactor to this city.

The sheriffs must first be chosen common council men before they can be elected, and if there be not any vacancy in the body corporate, consisting of forty-three, to admit new common council men, then one of the body, or two if wanted, are chosen to serve the office of sheriff again. The following is the oath administered to every common council man.

" You shall be faithful and true to the king's majesty, his heirs and successors, and to the mayor and commonalty of this city, and their successors: you shall come at the mayor's summons to the guildhall, common council-house, and to all places within the franchises of the same, unless you shall have any lawful cause to the contrary: you shall give good and wholesome counsel and advice, according to your best skill and knowledge, in all matters wherein you shall be required for the good and common profit of this city; and no partial counsel or advice shall you give, for any favour or affection, concerning any matter touching the mayor or commonalty or common profit of the same city: you shall secretly keep all such matters as shall be secretly communed of in the council-house, and which ought to be kept secret: you shall

common key upon the back of the river Avon, in the liberty of the town; and for the repair thereof the mayor, sheriff, bailiffs, and commonalty have usually levied and had of all merchants, as well denizens as foreigners, for all merchandize landed, a certain custom called keyage, according to the rate of 12d. for every doilli weight, and distrained for the same till they have satisfied for the said keyage; that Maurice Bowcher, importing such merchandize as before paid 8d. keyage for the said goods. The matter being brought before the judge of assize, the jury brought in a verdict for Elliot the sheriff. In the year 1786, these dues to the sheriff, called town-dues, have been again litigated, as oppressive to trade, &c. but after great expence by a trial at Gloucester the merchants were cast, and the sheriffs dues confirmed.

In the little Red Book of Bristol, p. 92. are the letters patent of 17th Henry 3d. dated May 29, stating what goods should pay for keyage, murage, &c. and how much each should be charged.

shall wholly uphold and stand with the benefit, common profit, and liberties of this city to your power; and truly and indifferently, without favour or partiality, shall give your evidence and counsel concerning the same, according to your skill and knowledge. So help you, God."

Besides the oaths of abjuration and supremacy, the mayor as well as sheriffs take the oaths respecting the just discharge of their offices.

It appears by the great White Book, p. 53. that the Sheriff Dale 11th Henry 8th. disputed with the mayor and aldermen about serving that office, as his yearly charges exceeded the revenues of his office. But on the 4th of October, 11th Henry 8th. John Williams being then mayor, the mayor and aldermen assembled in guildhall by unanimous consent, and commandment of the most Reverend Father in God my Lord Cardinal Wolsey, Archbishop of York, Chancellor of England, in moderation of the charges before this time yearly sustained by the sheriffs of Bristol, and ordained and established by authority of the king's charters to them granted and confirmed the ordinances following.

1. The sheriffs shall receive the yearly profits of St. James's	l.	s.	d.
fair amounting by computation to - - - - -	23	0	0
2. Of the goaler, for the fee-farm of the Goal, - - - - -	13	6	8
3. Of divers obiits holden in the town, - - - - -	2	8	4
4. The yearly profits and advantages coming of the Key, by estimation, - - - - -	66	13	4
5. Ditto of the Back, by estimation, - - - - -	16	0	0
6. Of Newgate, 27l. of Temple-gate, 20l. Redcliff-gate, 9l. of Froom-gate and Pithay-gate, 1l. 6s. 8d. the whole	57	6	8
7. Of the standing of the market-folks in the Market, - - -	3	13	4
8. Of amerciaments, nonfuits, &c. in courts, by estimation, -	2	13	4
9. Of the profits of sessions and law days, fines, frauds, blood-sheds, entris, felons goods, escheats, forfeits, and all other casualties, by estimation, - - - - -	30	0	0
Sum of the profits to be yearly taken by the sheriffs, - £	215	1	8

The yearly payments to be made by the sheriffs.

1. They shall pay the fee-farm of the town, amounting to 102l. 15s. 6d. — to the abbot of Tewksbury, 14l. 10s. — to the prior of St. James, 3l. — to the constables and officers of the Castle, 28l. 7s. 3d. — to the foresters of Kingswood, 11l. 7s. 3d. — in the whole - - -	160	0	0
2. For the proffers to the Exchequer at Michaelmas and Easter, with the writing and sealing thereof, - - - - -	5	4	0

8. The view of the account at Easter, the making the sheriffs account at Michaelmas, and divers other payments, in the Exchequer, - - - - -	l.	s.	d.
	14	10	6
4. To the steward of the town, his pension, - - - - -	3	9	4
5. To the undersheriff, for his fee, - - - - -	1	6	8
6. To St. George's priest, his pension, bread and wine, -	5	8	4
7. To the yearly obit of Richard Spicer in St. Nicholas church,	3	13	0
8. To the wages of the clerk of the same church, and for keeping the clock there, - - - - -	1	6	8
9. To each of the four orders of friers 8s. each, - - - - -	1	12	0
10. To be spent yearly at St. George's feast, - - - - -	2	0	0
11. At the drinking at Trinity chapel, - - - - -	0	13	4
12. To the two scabbards for the mayor, - - - - -	1	10	0
13. To the cost of Midsummer watch yearly, - - - - -	20	0	0
14. For the town liveries in the whole to all manner of officers, for which the sheriffs have the profits of St. James's fair,	25	0	0
15. For the costs of sessions and law days, - - - - -	2	0	0
16. For the writers for their wages yearly, - - - - -	1	9	8
17. For the wages to the keepers of the Key, - - - - -	1	8	8
18. Ditto to the keeper of the Back, 26s 8d. — to the porter of Newgate, 30s. — Redcliff-gate, 20s. — Temple-gate, 26s. 8d. — Froom-gate, 13s. 4d. — Pithay-gate, 13s. 4d.	7	16	8
19. Wages to each of waiting yeomen, 1l. 6s. 8d. - - -	5	6	8
20. For the commission of the staple, - - - - -	1	2	6
21. For twenty quires of paper, bags, and ferrells for the town clerk, - - - - -	0	6	8
22. To the town clerk for two law days, - - - - -	0	6	8
23. For writing the proffers yearly, - - - - -	0	4	0
24. For writing the indentures for the goal between the new sheriffs and the old, - - - - -	0	2	8
25. For ringing the common bell at Michaelmas, - - -	0	4	0
26. For the messengers of the Exchequer, - - - - -	0	4	0
27. At the drinking at the Tolzey at St. Nicholas day, -	0	2	0
28. To the chamber yearly towards the charges of the burgessees of parliament against such time as any parliament shall be holden, - - - - -	2	0	0
	£ 268	8	0
	All		

All other charges of the town to be always born at the charge of the chamber.

Total of the yearly charges of the sheriffs, - - - £ 268 8 0

So that their charges still exceeded their profits besides the costs

of bringing up the prisoners, - - - - - 53 6 4

This curious account gives us an idea of several particulars relative to the sheriffs office and manners and customs of the age; but in modern times new alterations and establishments have taken place.

At p. 124. — 10, 11, and 27, is mentioned a charge for drinking and feasting, which shews they were no strangers here to hospitable living and entertainments formerly on public occasions.

20th May, 28 Henry vi. it was ordained by William Cannings mayor, and the common council, that the drinking at St. John's and St. Peter's nights should be wholly to persons of crafts going the nights before the mayor, sheriff and other notable persons, and that the mayor and sheriff on forfeiture of five marks a piece, the one at St. John's night, the other at St. Peter's, should dispense wine to be disposed of to the said crafts at their halls: viz. to the weavers and tuckers each ten gallons; to the taylors and cornesers each eight gallons; butchers six gallons; dyers, bakers, brewers, and sher-men each five gallons; skinners, smiths, furriers, cutellers, lockyers, barbers, waxmakers, tanners, whitawers, each four gallons; masons, tylers, carpenters, hoopers, wire-drawers and card-makers, three gallons each; bowers and fletchers (arrow makers) each two gallons; in all ninety four gallons.

Mention is also made and orders given about the mayor and council going to their Christmas drinking to the abbot of St. Augustin, as hath been accustomed.

It appears by a note in the city books dated 1626 the following officers of the city were yearly chosen:

A mayor elect and two sheriffs elect; mayor and aldermen constables of the staple; mayor elect and four aldermen custodes clavium or clavigers; six aldermen and common council men auditors of the accounts; four aldermen and council-men surveyors of the city lands; four elder council-men assistants in the care of orphans; four of the same assistants with the mayor for the loan money of Sir Thomas White and others; one treasurer and one assistant for the hospital of Queen Elizabeth; two supervisors of the same; two aldermen supervisors of the hospital of Lafford's gate; four supervisors of the free school at St. Bartholomew's; five supervisors of the 60l. for the placing out poor children and provision of coals; four supervisors of the gift money

money of Sir Thomas White and others for the repair of the high ways near Bristol; but it was ordained 15th September 1633 that no person should stand in any of the offices of surveyors, clavigers (and so downwards for the rest) above two years together at one time, the office of auditors only excepted.

Each alderman by an ordinance 12th March 1621, confirmed by another 13th December 1658, was obliged (unless prevented by sickness) to visit his ward once a month for the discovery of strangers and undertenants &c. to remedy any disorders misbehaviour &c. under the penalty of 5l. to the chamber for his neglect therein; and the mayor, unless employed in the service of the King, was not to remain out of the liberties of the city above the space of three days and three nights in the whole year of mayoralty, under the penalty of 100l. by an order dated 20th October 1606; and if he refused to serve the office of mayoralty when chosen he was fined 200l. and disfranchised: John Pope was fined 100l. in the year 1663 for the same. But the honour and profit attending the office now have been such, that the mayoralty has not been refused by any one, especially as the expences incurred by serving the office of sheriff are amply repaid him during the year of mayoralty. The mayor by ancient privilege recorded in the city archives, has the nomination of a second person to be put in election for sheriff and the house the other, one of which is chosen: and in the year 1656, Josias Clutterbuck being chosen sheriff and refusing to serve was fined 300l. and Mr. Thomas Stephens was fined 200l. and committed to newgate for refusal in 1660. But by an order 4th November 1704, any one refusing to serve the office of mayor in his turn if elected, incurred a penalty of 400l. and was disfranchised, and the sheriffs 200l. each in like manner, unless they will swear they are not worth 2000l.

To add a splendor to the office of mayor, and for convenience of his domestic affairs during the year of mayoralty, a mansion house in the year 1784, for the mayor was set apart for his annual residence with commodious buildings, offices and banqueting room in Queen-square, which being so near the trading part of the city, was thought a proper place for the ready accommodation of captains of ships and others, who might want to apply to the mayor in their concerns.

This opulent and respectable corporation are possessed of very large estates both in the city and in the country, in trust for charitable uses and the public emolument of the citizens, for supporting hospitals, schools with exhibitions at the university and almshouses; for establishing lectures and gift-sermons at churches for the instruction of the people in the doctrines of Christianity;

Christianity; for relieving prisoners and confined debtors; for keeping the poor at work; for the marriage of poor girls children of freemen; for repairing the roads round the city, and for other public uses. They have also a large fund of money deposited in the chamber for the use of young tradesmen, those especially in the clothing business to be preferred, 100 l. 50 l. 25 l. or less to be lent to each of them interest free for seven or ten years, they getting security for its repayment then. This has such a natural tendency to promote a spirit of industry in young beginners, and this little stock to begin with joined to the aid of their friends and their own diligence has been known to produce such a good effect, that they have rose often in the world, and thus happily fulfilled and even exceeded the good intention of the donors. By estates and manors vested in their hands, and by purchases formerly made with money out of the city stock, the corporation are patrons of several church livings in the city and country: which they generally present upon any becoming vacant to their fellow citizens or the sons of such, who have been educated at the Bristol Grammar-school, and at the university for divines: this is but just and right, as these advowsons or rights of presentation were purchased formerly by the money of the burgeses, for the disposal of which to the advantage of the citizens the corporation are in trust, though prejudice and partiality have been sometimes known to have misguided their judgment in this affair; and these church-livings have been presented to strangers, in preference to natives and free burgeses, who though they would be glad or stand in need of such a provision, and have been educated perhaps with that view, yet have been so unfortunate as to have solicited in vain; and notwithstanding their natural right and just claim to them have had the mortification to find strangers preferred before them.

The wise old fathers of our city thus gave exhibitions to encourage the citizens to breed up their sons to learning at the university, that some of them might fill the learned professions with credit, and become ornaments of society and reflect honour on their native city, as able and learned divines in possession of these churches.

In the Diocese of Bristol.

The following livings are in the gift of the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of Bristol.

Deanry of Bristol. — City of Bristol.

Livings discharged.

Rectories, &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

Clear yearly value.				King's books.		
l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
5	18	1	St. John's and St. Lawrence's rectory, computed to be about 120l. per ann. pays a pension of 13s. 4d. to the patrons, - - - - -	7	4	7
5	18	11	St. Michael's rectory, about 200l. per ann. pays a pension of 4s. - - - - -	6	0	0
0	6	8	St. Owen's, alias St. Ewen's rectory, about 25l. pays a pension of 1 lb. of wax,			
12	5	0	St. Peter's rectory, about 150l. pays a pension of 1l. - - - - -	6	7	6
43	16	0	St. Philip and St. Jacob's vicarage; mayor, aldermen and burgeses of Bristol. Abby of Tewksbury propr. about 150l. per ann. - - -	15	0	0
33	6	8	Temple vicarage, alias St. Cross, in com. Somerset. Mayor, aldermen, and burgeses of Bristol. Knights Templars olim propr. about 200l. per ann. pays a pension of 5l. per ann. -	3	4	2

Not in charge.

			St. James cure, olim a priory, 450l. and upwards per ann. pays a pension of 3l. 6s. 8d. per ann. city of Bristol patrons. *			
3	8	0	Christ Church or the Holy Trinity, computed at about 150l. per annum. Mayor and aldermen patrons, olim the abby of Tewksbury, pays a pension of 10s. per annum. - - -	11	0	0

Diocese

* Vide Willis's Survey, p. 841. Sixteen of the eighteen churches in Bristol are in no archdeaconry, but in the bishop's sole visitation, by his chancellor; though Bedminster, the mother church to St. Mary Redcliff and Thomas in Bristol city, is still in Wells diocese and Bath archdeaconry; and the seventeen out-lying churches and chapels in Bristol deanry, yet belong to Gloucester archdeaconry, notwithstanding they are in this diocese.

Diocese of Bath and Wells. Somerset.

Deanry of Bridgwater, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton.

Living discharged.

Rectories, &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

Clear yearly value.

King's books.

l. s. d.

l. s. d.

38 1 8

Stockland Gaunts alias Bristol, vicarage. Mayor and burgeses of Bristol. Prior or master of Gaunts in Bristol. About 70l. per annum, -

6 9 4

Deanry of Axbridge, in the Archdeaconry of Wells.

Living remaining in charge.

Rectories, &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

King's books.

Yearly tenths.

42 1 8

Congresbury vicarage, [St. Andrew] with Laurencewick chapel, [St. Laurence] capellano vii. synods vii s. Mayor and aldermen of Bristol, as governors of Queen Elizabeth's hospital, patrons. Dean and chapter of Wells, proprietors. About 300l. per annum. - - -

4 4 2

Living discharged.

Clear yearly value.

King's books.

24 2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

Locking vicarage, [St. Austin] synods iis. iiid. Proxies iiid. William Plomley, Esq; 1671, pri. Worpspring propr. The Society of Merchants in Bristol. It is about 70l. per ann. -

5 6 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

D. Redcliff and Bedminster, in the Archdeaconry of Bath.

Living remaining in charge.

King's books.

Clear yearly value.

5 10 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

Burnet rectory, about 70l. per ann. -

31 3 6

33 15 7 $\frac{1}{2}$

Portishead rectory, synods vs. viiid. Proxies xvid.

Abby Keynsham viiis. Mayor and burgeses of Bristol. About 120l. per ann - -

Tenths.

3 5 6 $\frac{3}{4}$

The Gaunts or Mayor's chapel, in Bristol, 25l. per annum for the reader, and 1l. 1s. for the sermon every Sunday to the preacher.

St. George's new erected church in Kingswood.

Mayor and corporation. About 150l. per annum.

R

They

They not only present to the above livings, but also to many other lectureships, chaplainships, &c. But it must be observed, that the value of these livings in the city chiefly arises from the voluntary contributions of the parishioners resorting to the several parish churches, which have no endowment, some not even an house for the minister, except Queen Anne's bounty and certain sums given by charitable benefactors for gift-sermons to be preached on certain occasions and days appointed. Therefore the value of each church living here must vary every year, and however computed at a medium cannot be exact. The tythes of the city were formerly paid to the abby of Tewksbury from the most early times, being the sum of 14l. 10s. which at the dissolution came to the crown, and were purchased by the corporation, 24 of C. 2 among other things. But the good citizens of Bristol, though they have opposed any attempt of having an established sum levied upon their houses and lands for the fixed support of the clergy, have hitherto generously contributed to their maintenance; nor given any cause for their applying to Government for relief, which they would probably obtain, as in London, their duties in such large and populous parishes being very great, if a support due to their labours were meanly afforded or partly withheld.

It was a great character, we see given to our citizens in early times, (vid. p. 83.) that "they maintained preachers at their own cost in commendable sort," and there is little reason to apprehend they will be ever backward in generously rewarding the labours of a learned clergy, and supporting the officiating lawfully instituted ministry of the church of England established by law. There were certainly tythes as well as offerings collected formerly for their maintenance, though long since discontinued, as appears from p. 2. of the great Red Book, that 15th kal. Jun. 1301, in seventh year of his consecration, Robert Archbishop of Canterbury issued forth his mandate to the Dean of Bristol, strictly forbidding some irregular proceedings, that in proving wills, they cited the inhabitants to remote places out of the borough, and ordaining the confirmation of the orders made by the bishop of the diocese, relating to the better securing and adjusting the tythes of such persons, who, living in one part of the town, sold their wares in another.

A competent maintenance for the ministers of the several parishes, even in the time of the Protector, was thought so necessary, that on the 5th of October 1657 the mayor and commonalty, by the powers of several acts of parliament, ordained that 909l. should be yearly levied by way of tax and assessment upon each parish for their support, in the following proportions: St. Michael and St. Austin, 50l. St. James, 50l. St. Thomas, 120l. Temple, 48l.

Redcliff,

Redcliff, 40l. St. Philip and the Castle, 20l. St. Stephen, 90l. St. Nicholas, 120l. St. Werburg and Leonard, 85l. All Saints and St. Ewen, 70l. Christ Church and St. John, 120l. Maryport and St. Peter, 96l. And to raise this maintenance by assessment, ("the want of which, they say, is in no place greater") They further ordain: First, that no officiating minister should be debarred from this benefit. Secondly, that the fabric of all the churches should be supported, and their revenues be given and applied to such uses and the same purposes as formerly. Thirdly, they recommend to the several vestries to concert any other proportions that shall be necessary, and will join them to assess and compel the payment of them. Fourthly, that when they meet to make the poor rates to have the allowance of the justices according to law, they shall bring the rate for the ministers maintenance, to have the like confirmation according to act of parliament; all persons over-rated to appeal at the next quarter sessions. Fifthly, that when a minister is to be chosen, it should be in the liberty of each parish to choose their own minister where none is already officiating, provided he be an ordained person or chosen out of one of the universities, and approved of according to the laws of the land. And it appears, that the corporation enforced the execution of the said acts, and the 14th of February 1658, ordered 100l. per ann. out of the chamber's revenue towards the better maintenance and encouragement of the parish ministers.

Notwithstanding the great losses, by contributions and otherwise, this corporation sustained in the time of the grand rebellion; yet we find soon after, in Charles 2d's. time, they had so far improved the city revenues, that they discharged several rents payable to the crown, which had been sold Feb. 6, 1650, for 577l. 12s. 7d. by Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth, but being recovered in the year 1673, 24th Charles 2d. by indenture, dated July 24, the following fee farm rents reserved paid annually to the crown out of lands, which had been purchased at the dissolution of religious houses of Henry 8th. by the city, were bought on their behalf by Thomas Lee, of London, Esq; and conveyed to the said mayor and commonalty of Bristol by the Right Hon. Francis Lord Hawley, Sir Charles Harbord, his Majesty's surveyor-general, Sir William Howard, Sir John Talbot of Lacock, Wilts, and William Harbord Esq; trustees appointed for the sale of fee farm rents, and by an act for vesting them in the trustees and by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to them directed. The consideration money for the whole was 3024l. 15s. 1d. and to raise that sum, by an order in the corporation books dated 1671, some fee farm rents payable to the city were sold by them to divers people, but those payable out of the marsh of Bristol (now the square)

were then not thought proper to be parted with, as not to the advantage of the city. But seeing whence these ground rents paid by the city to the crown arose, we discover what lands belonged to religious houses, and what great estates are now in the possession of the chamber of Bristol from the dissolution.

Parcel of the late hospital or house of St. John the Baptist without Redcliff-gate, within the city of Bristol. l. s. d.

For lands and tenements within the city of Bristol, with messuages, tofts, houses, meadows, pastures, rents, services, and other appertenances, lately belonging to the said hospital, (except the site and precinct thereof) a reserved rent of - 2 7 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

Parcel of the late monastery of Tewksbury.

For the whole house and site of the priory or cell of St. James, near Bristol, lately belonging to the dissolved monastery of Tewksbury, and all the messuages, buildings, barns, dove-house, pools, orchards, lands, &c. within the said precinct as well as without, to the said cell adjoining. Also for all the rectories of Stapleton and Mangotsfield, with their rights, &c. thereto belonging. Also for the rectory and church of St. James in Bristol, and for the rectory and church of the blessed St. Philip and Jacob in the said city, with their rights, &c. to said cell or priory of St. James appertaining, with right of patronage: and all manors, granges, mills, lands, &c. in Stapleton, Mangotsfield, Itchington, Tockington, Cadbroke, Saltmarsh, and Barton hundred, in the county of Gloucester, howsoever belonging to the said priory, granted among other things to Henry Brain, Esq; by letters patent 35th Henry 8th. for 666l. 7s. 6d. with pensions of 20s. out of the rectory of St. Peter, 10s. out of Christ Church, 10s. 4d. out of St. John's, 1l. 6s. 8d. out of St. Philip's, 4s. out of St. Michael's, 6d. out of St. Ewen's, — at only per annum, - - 3 10 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

For the reserved rent of 2l. 3s. 4d. out of the manor of Olveston, belonging to the late dissolved monastery of Bath, granted among other things to Sir Ralph Sadler, - - 2 3 4

N. B. This was afterwards sold off by the corporation to Sir Robert Cann, for 15l. 15s. the same sum the city gave for it.

Parcel

Parcel of Tewksbury monastery.

l. s. d.

For a yearly rent of 14l. 18s. 2d. out of the chantry of St. Michael in Winterborne, and lands, &c. thereto belonging in Winterborne, Froomshaw, Churchfield, Hambroke, and Cliffield, in Gloucestershire, paid by the sheriff or chamberlain of Bristol, - - - - -

14 18 2

Parcel of the possessions of the late monastery of Bath, assigned for life to the Queen Henrietta Maria, for her jointure.

For all that yearly fee-farm rent of 41l. 3s. 5d. residue of 95l. 3s. 5d. issuing, due, and payable out of the manor of Congersbury, Somerset, and for the patronage of the church of Congersbury, and its appertenances: also the courts leet, &c. in Congersbury and Lawrence Wick, paid by the city of Bristol, - - - - -

41 3 5

Parcel of the house of St. Mark of Bellifwick.

For all that yearly rent of 20l. per ann. payable by the city out of the house and site of the hospital of St. Mark of Bellifwick, near Bristol, called les Gaunts, and for the church, belfry, churchyard there, and for the manors of Erdcot and Lee in Gloucestershire, to it belonging; and for the manor of Stockland Gaunts, with its rights, members, and appertenances, in Somersetshire, to the late dissolved hospital belonging; and the donation, patronage, and free disposition of the vicarages of the churches of Stockland Gaunts and Overstowey; and also for the manor, &c. of Winterbourne Gonner, called Cherburg, in Wilts, with its rights, &c. to the said hospital heretofore belonging; and out of and for all meadows, granges, tenements, and hereditaments, &c. to the said manors and premises belonging, in the town of Bristol, or the parishes of Lee and Almondsbury, in the county of Gloucester, or in Stockland Gaunts, Overstowey, and Brewham, in Somersetshire, or in Winterborne Gonner, in Wilts, to the late hospital les Gautes belonging, as parcel of the said house or hospital, (except the manor of Pawlet Gaunts, Southam, and Northam, granted by letters patent of Henry 8th. to Richard Cupper) and also for and out of the manor of Hampe and its rights and appertenances, in the county of Somerset; parcel of

of the late monastery of Athelny, and messuages and lands in Hampe aforefaid in the tenure of Sir Richard Warre; and for the site of the house of Grey Friars, Carmelite Friars and their appertinences, all purchased of Henry 8th 33d. year, for the sum of 1000l. and 20l. per annum rent, - 20 0 0

Parcel of the antient crown lands.

For the ferm of the castle of Bristol with its appertinences the mansion house within the castle in the tenure of Francis Brewster, the close lying without the ditch of the said castle called the King's orchard; the inner green and for forty three several tenements within the circuit or walk of the castle, and for the wood yard there, and three gardens there, and barns, stables and other premises; and for the walls, towers and ditches inclosing the said castle reserved in purchase of the castle of C. 1st. an. regni. 6^o. - - - - - 40 0 0

Parcel of chantry lands lately concealed.

For and out of the fee-farm of the chapel or hospital of the holy Trinity in the parish of St. Phillip and Jacob, and all the lands &c. belonging thereto at the rent of twenty shillings, also for the fee-farm of the chapel of the three Kings of Cologne, in the parish of St. Michael and the lands thereto belonging, an annual rent reserved of 13 s. and 4 d. for it, both granted to Peter Gray by Queen Elizabeth by letters patent dated 8th day of March, in the 19th year of her reign, paying yearly per annum, - - - - - 1 13 4

Parcel of lands of the priory of St. Mary Magdalen of Bristol.

For a rent affize of one tenement on the Back of Bristol, - 0 4 0
For an annual rent or tenth reserved for all the tenements, lands and other premises within the city of Bristol, paid by the mayor and burgeses at per annum, - - - - - 2 7 1¹/₄
For an annual rent issuing out of the office of water bayliff of Bristol, granted to the mayor and burgeses by Henry 7th 18th December, 15th year of his reign, — paying - - 0 13 4
For a fee-farm rent issuing out of the tythes of the city of Bristol, payable by the sheriffs at per annum, - - - - - 14 10 0

For

For an annual rent issuing out of an ancient farm of the city of Bristol granted to the mayor and commonalty at per annum (being paid for the fee of the city and its suburbs, gates, ditches, walls, the rents of the flesh shambles there, shops, mills, waters running to the mills, tolls, courts, fairs &c. which farm was granted 1 Edward 4th 12th Feb.)

l. s. d.

- 142 10 0

The sale of the afore-mentioned fee-farm rents were contracted for betwixt the city and the crown 30th August 1671. viz. 2l. 7s. 1d $\frac{1}{4}$. per annum: 1l. 13s. 4d. per annum: 3l. 10s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per annum: 2l. 3s. 4d. per annum: and the 20l. per annum, at sixteen years and half purchase, and for the thirty three shillings and four pence per annum, the 4s. per annum, 14l. 18s. 2d. per annum, the 14l. 10s. per annum: and the 41l. 3s. 5d. per annum, at sixteen years purchase,—and for the reversion after the Queen of the rents of 40l. os. od. per annum: and 142l. 10s per annum, at eight years purchase. The clear money paid was 3024l. 15s. 1d. though the rate of the particulars aforementioned at the rates expressed is £ 3078 6 2 Deduct interest for one moiety for 139 days from the 9th

November 1671, at the rate of ten per Cent, &c. - - 53 11 1

The clear purchase of the whole - - - - - 3024 15 1

A purchase so well judged by the governing members of the city at that time, that they cannot but be greatly applauded for it by their successors at this day, as by clearing the city lands from the incumbrance of ground rents payable to the crown, it has rendered these estates they purchased very reasonable at first of the crown in Henry 8th's time much more valuable now; and has enabled the corporation to found hospitals, increase almshouses, improve their original endowments and render the public charities more extensive, and employ larger sums of the public money to public uses and the beneficial advantage and emolument of the citizens. Besides these great estates the corporation are possessed of the manour of Burnet in the county of Somerset, by the gift of the good and truly charitable Mr. Alderman Whitson, for the perpetual support and education of poor girls, and erecting a school called the Red Maids School; they have also estates at Weston in Gordano in the county of Somerset; at Hinton Derham and Winterborne in the county of Gloucester; at Portishead in the county of Somerset; at Congersbury the manor; at Overstowey and Stockland-Bristol in Somersetshire; the manor of Gaunts Ercot and the Lea; lands in Stapleton, Portbury, Ashton,

Ashton, Brislington, and at many other places as well distant from as near to the city; and an infinite number of houses, lands, &c. within the city itself and in the suburbs, the market, the whole of Queen-square, Prince's-street, part of College-green, all Orchard-street, &c. all which are leased out on lives, paying ground rents, &c. besides several estates in hand, ground rents, and rents from all the standings in the several markets, &c. As these were given in trust for charitable uses and common profit of the city, they will be noted more particularly, and each endowment given, in the parish where those charities are established; or in the annals, under the year when they were bestowed on the city.

The following is a short scheme only of the general charities that have been established, and agreed on as payable yearly by the chamberlain, besides the larger foundations for the support of schools, hospitals, and others, hereafter to be particularized.

In 1737, on the 14th of December, an order of common council was made for a committee to inspect and examine into the several charities given to the chamber, and payable by them, and for which they stand in trust.

The first sitting, December 16, 1737, Nathaniel Day, mayor.

The last fitting was August 17, 1739, William Jefferies, ditto.

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--|---|---|---|---|---|------|---|---|
| 1566. | Sir Thomas White's gift, in the year 1738 produced, to be lent to burgesſes, 50l. each, for ten years, intereſt free, on ſecurity; clothiers and cloth-workers to be preferred, | - | - | - | - | - | 1400 | 0 | 0 |
| 1579. | John Heydon, 100l. to two merchants for four years, paying 1l. 13s. 4d. each for intereſt, to be given the priſoners in Newgate. | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| 1532. | Robert Thorn, 500l. to clothiers and others, who ſet the the poor at work, 50l. each, for ten years, intereſt free. | - | - | - | - | - | 500 | 0 | 0 |
| 1634. | Alderman Robert Aldworth, 1000l. to thoſe who ſet the poor at work, 50l. each, for ten years, intereſt free. | - | - | - | - | - | 1000 | 0 | 0 |
| 1634. | George White, 200l. 20l. each to ten men, for ten years; clothiers to be preferred. | - | - | - | - | - | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| 1627. | Alderman John Whitſon, 500l. 250l. to five young men, being meer merchants, for ſeven years, 10s. a year intereſt to the poor of St. Nicholas pariſh in Briſtol; and 250l. to handicraft tradesmen, inhabitants and free-men of Briſtol, for ſeven years, intereſt free. | - | - | - | - | - | 500 | 0 | 0 |
- Alder-

Alderman Robert Rogers, 100l. to ten burgessees, for five years, interest free; soap-boilers to be preferred.	l.	s.	d.
	100	0	0
1627. John Dunster, 100l. to ten handicraftsmen, free burgessees, for five years, interest free.	100	0	0
1623. Thomas Jones's executors paid 380l. 20l. a piece to free-men, for six years.	380	0	0
1594. Alderman Robert Kitchen, 125l. to five merchants, 25l. each, for five years, interest free; and 250l. to free-men, by 5l. and 10l. each, for five years, interest free.	375	0	0
1651. Robert Redwood's executors paid 250l. 10l. to burgessees, for five years.	250	0	0
1616. Dr. James, 50l. to five burgessees, for two years, interest free.	50	0	0
1629. Alderman Doughty, 100l. to ten handicraftsmen, for five years, interest free,	100	0	0
Margaret Brown, ten pounds.	10	0	0
	<u>£ 4965</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

These are the benefactions of the loan money,* and the meetings to receive petitions from the burgessees for it are, the second Tuesday in October, second Tuesday in January, second Tuesday in April, and the second Tuesday in July.

In a manuscript wrote in 1746, and copied from the Council-books, the following are the yearly payments to be made by the chamber of Bristol, viz.

Sir Thomas White, to twenty-four corporations, to each yearly in rotation,	l.	s.	d.
	104	0	0
Humphrey Brown, to Westbury parish,	2	10	0
To Iron Acton,	2	10	0
To St. Werburgh's, for four sermons,	2	0	0
To St. Nicholas, for a lecture,	20	0	0
Abel Kitchen, for apprenticing poor boys,	14	0	0
To All Saints' church,	3	6	8
To Temple,	3	2	0
To Christ Church,	3	18	0
To Westbury,	0	13	4
To the vicar of Kendal, for a sermon,	0	10	0
To the vicar of St. Stephen's, one Sunday in Lent,	0	10	0
S			Robert

* A table of this loan money was fixed up in the Council-house in the year 1738.

	l.	s.	d.
Robert Kitchen, to parishes, viz. St. Stephen,	2	0	0
Maryport,	2	0	0
All Saints,	0	10	0
St. Nicholas,	2	0	0
St. Peter,	2	0	0
St. Ewen's,	1	0	0
St. Augustin,	1	10	0
St. Thomas,	1	0	0
St. Philip's,	2	0	0
Temple,	2	0	0
Redcliff,	2	0	0
St. James,	2	0	0
St. Michael's,	1	10	0
St. John's,	1	0	0
St. Leonard's,	1	0	0
St. Werburgh's,	0	10	0
Christ Church,	2	0	0
William Chester, to the poor of St. John's,	7	16	0
To the almshouse on St. James's-back,	0	4	0
Thomas White, to almshouses of St. John, St. Thomas, St. Michael, Lewin's-mead, 4s. each per month, is by the year,	9	12	0
To St. John's conduit,	1	0	0
All Saints' ditto,	1	0	0
To Newgate prisoners,	1	1	8
George White, to the prisoners in Newgate,	5	0	0
To a scholar in Oxford,	5	0	0
J. Heydon, to the prisoners in Newgate,	3	6	8
Alderman Aldworth, ditto,	1	0	0
Alderman Haviland, for twelve sermons in Newgate,	4	0	0
Mr. Lambert, to the hospital of Trinity,	0	16	0
Joan Ludlow, to the almshouse of St. Michael's,	1	0	0
Mrs. Wheatly, to All Saints almshouse, Nov. 1.	0	10	0
Paid yearly by the corporation for charities and sermons, &c.	£ 224	6	4

These annual general charities were established by the committee, whose meeting ended 1739, as were all those that are marked with an asterisk (*) in the list of wills and in the ensuing annals to be given below.

In 1620, 18th October, it was agreed, that "in lieu of charities which could not now be restored to their right first intended use, 50l. per annum was ordered to be always given to place out burgessees' children, and 10l. per annum to buy coals for the poor; and in 1622, a quarter part of the said 50l. was to be applied for placing out poor girls, and in 1626 a quarter part to Bridewell prisoners." In 1634, 6l. per annum was agreed to be paid yearly to maimed soldiers and other impotent persons, out of Codrington's lands in Portishead.

Many of Robert Thorn's gifts do not relate to these times, because applied before, according to the donor's will; so also those of Nicholas Thorn.

In 1625, the mayor, J. Barker, Alderman Whitson, and others, were appointed to cause a table of benefactors to be made, and set up in some convenient place or in the council chamber.

In the year 1659, 6th Jan. it was ordered in the Common Council Book, No. K 6. that, "whereas several sums of gift money have been applied by the chamber to different uses, the committee of the said gift money do appoint what seals of the city or of the chamberlain should pass for such monies as did properly belong to each several donation and settlement of the worthy benefactors to pious uses, to the end the city may be fully engaged to make the same good again." So conscientiously exact and scrupulously honest were they in applying the money and estates left to the city's use, according to the wills of the respective donors!

In the year 1677, 5th May, order was made, "that 1300l. of gift money Alderman Lawford then acknowledged to be in his hands, and that other monies upon that account in his custody, be received by the chamberlain, and be put into a chest with four locks and keys, and Mr. Mayor with three other of the aldermen be clavigers; other clavigers in succession to be elected on the general day of election of the mayor and other officers, which clavigers are to dispose of the monies." L. p. 101.

October 13, 1659. The following order appears in the Council Books, I. I. p. 115, "whereas there appeared to be a sudden occasion for the mayor and aldermen to be satisfied and informed as to the foundations, constitutions, orders, and statutes of the respective hospitals, and of the lands rents and revenues belonging to them; it is ordered, that a committee, with the mayor and two aldermen clavigers and town clerk, search into the respective charters records and evidences relating thereto, and draw up their sentiments in writing." And in 1680, 31st Charles 2d. 5th of February, the following entry is made: "Whereas there is an act of parliament of the

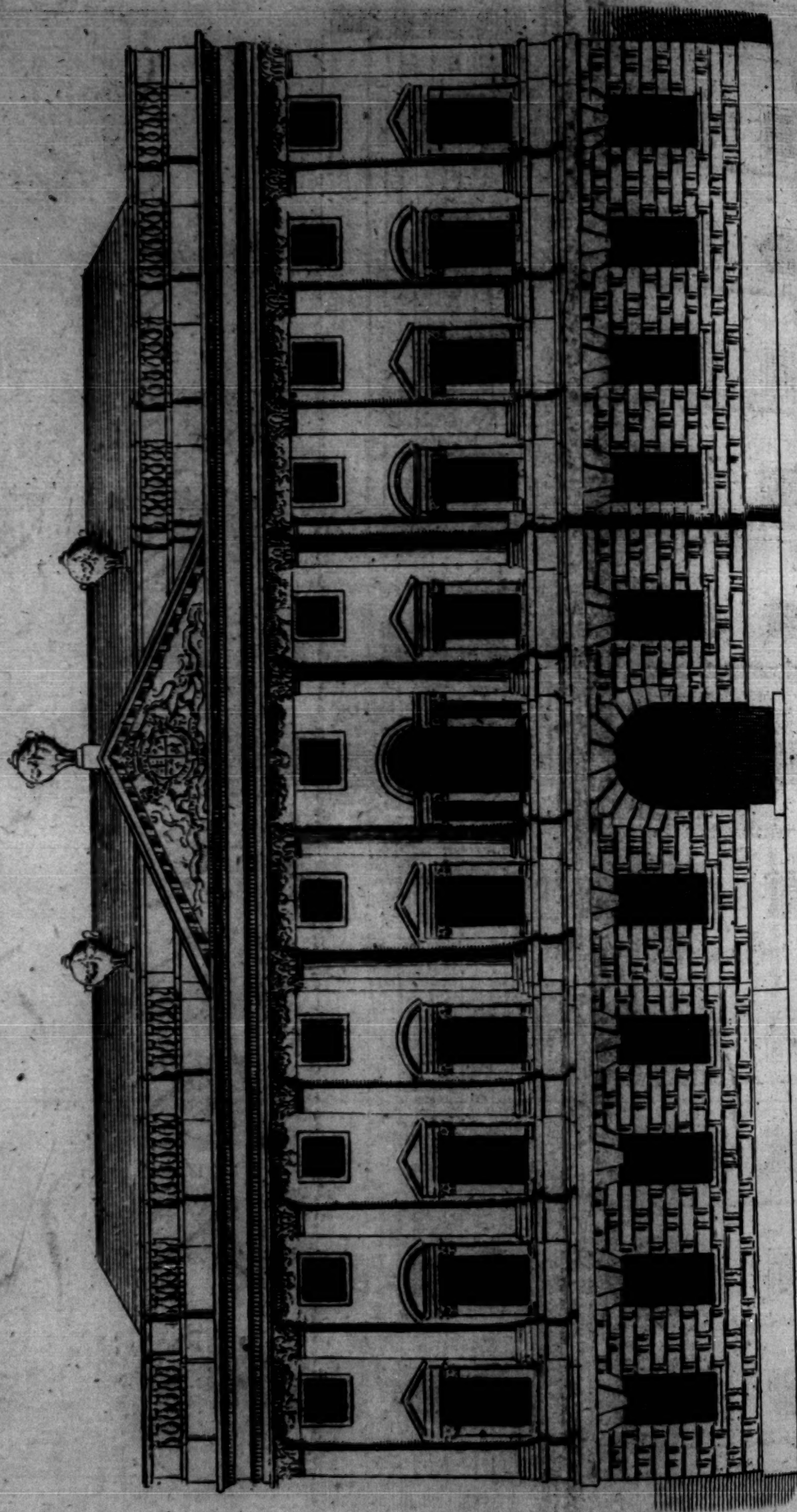
39th Elizabeth whereby the mayor and aldermen, or any four of them, the recorder and mayor to be two, are made special governors and visitors over all monies goods and other things given to charitable uses within the city by any person, and to make orders for the due employing the same and to compel all persons to yield obedience thereto, notwithstanding which the same is not obeyed: but in regard other persons have taken out commissions and do act contrary to the said statute; it was therefore enacted that Mr. Recorder, Sir John Knight and Sir Robert Cann take care to preserve the rights and privileges granted by the said act, and to oppose all proceedings against it.

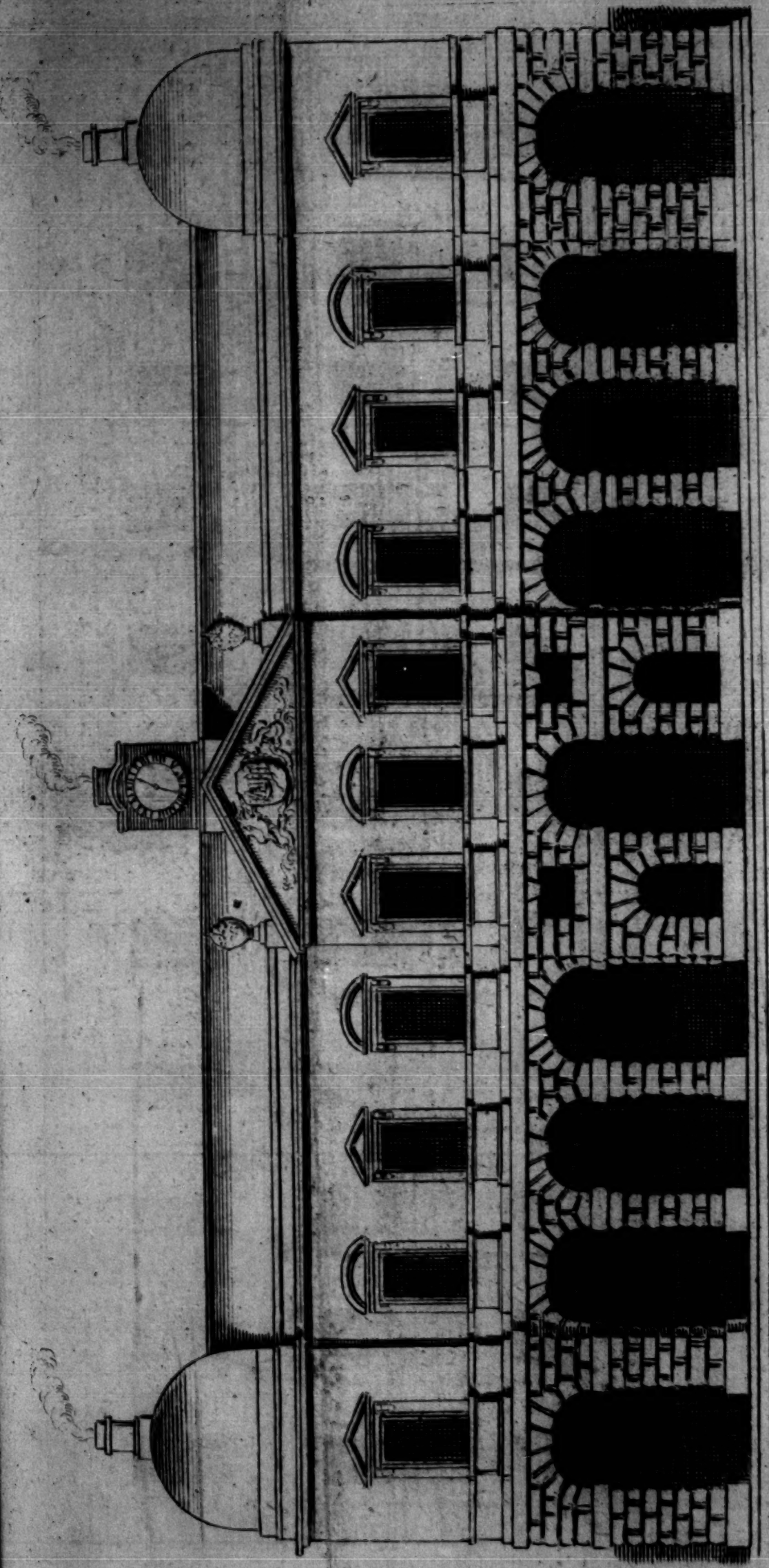
The ground rents reserved both of the city and country estates belonging to the chamber of Bristol given for charitable uses and the common profit of the city, are upwards of 3000l. per annum, and including the rents of the market-houses and standings, some estates in hand not leased off, with the great additional income arising from fines and for renewals of leases upon lives continually dropping in such a number of estates small and large as they are possessed of, the whole amounts to above 10,000l. per annum: in the year 1778, all their estates and rents produced 14,000l. per annum, though their produce must vary greatly at different times.

Enabled with these large estates this opulent corporation have not been wanting, besides the above standing annual disbursements and others for the public charities, &c. in expending large sums for the general good of the city and better accommodation of the citizens; particularly, they have purchased ground and builded thereon a new Exchange and erected a new Market behind it at an expence of more than 50,000l. besides doing other public works occasionally to be recited hereafter to their honour.

Great and numerous are the charities in the disposal and management of the mayor and aldermen, yet the poor of the city for their weekly support are under the immediate rule of the governor deputy governor assistants and guardians of the poor incorporated by act of parliament, of which see in St. Peter's parish below.—But besides the mayor, aldermen and common-council of which the corporation consist, and who form the civil government of the city (a regular list of whom from the earliest time will be given below in the annals) there are others, who reflect an honour upon the city by their distinguished office, namely the members of parliament, chosen and sent up by the suffrages of the freemen to watch over their liberties and to transact the national business and those affairs the city may be particularly interested in.

Bristol was a borough at the Conquest, before Henry 1st's time, as appears by a charter of his without date, wherein the inhabitants are stiled by the name





The back View of the Exchange



name of burgesſes, and in the records of the city is ſtill extant a manuſcript kalendar compiled by Mr. Ricaut in Edward 4th's time, wherein it is affirmed to be held of the crown in frank burgage, and to have enjoyed " its fraunchiſes lybertyes and auntiaunte free cuſtoms time out of mind as the city of London; and conſequently to have its ſaid liberties confirmed by Magna Charta as London and other enfraunchiſed places had." On which account Mr. Ricaut at the end of the kalendar has for the uſe of the magiſtrates exhibited another valuable manuſcript, being a true copy of the cuſtoms of London, contained in a book belonging to Henry Dravey who in the time of King Edward 3d. was recorder of that city. It is alſo to be noted, that in the privileges granted to Briſtol by many of our kings, it is declared that the city ſhould enjoy the ſame in as ample manner as London itſelf. But that it was a borough before any of the charters have mentioned, ſome words contained in thoſe of King Henry and King John prove; who while Earl of Moreton only enlarged the privileges of it: and it was afterwards made one town incorporate by Redcliff and Briſtol being united, before which time the two parts of the town were under the rule and direction of the ſheriffs and officers of its proper counties Gloceſter and Somerſet, and ſubject to the juſtices of aſſize and King's miniſters there, as other boroughs were. It had alſo its guilds in early times; King John's charter taking notice of them as if very flouriſhing then and moſt probably before the Norman's arrival; when it was governed by its own lords or thanes, like the German Burgraves: ſo that it may be concluded, Briſtol in the Saxon and Norman times had its lords, thanes, or earls (comites,) under whoſe eſtabliſhment were appointed prepoſitors; and this form of magiſtracy continued till the 1ſt of Henry 3d. as before mentioned. The great privileges granted by the charters of ſeveral Kings both with reſpect to appointing its own officers for the civil government of the city as well as the liberties and advantages it has enjoyed thereby for repairing and improving the town from time to time will fully appear by conſulting the letters patent and charters themſelves, which will be inſerted in the ſubſequent annals of the city under the year in which the ſeveral grants were made.

Briſtol being thus an ancient borough and town-corporate, it ſent very early two burgesſes to the great council or parliament of the kingdom by ancient preſcription, though then called a burgh or borough, (yet, of great note, trade, antiquity, wealth and renown) having liberties and officers within itſelf: theſe two men were choſen formerly by the corporation and freeholders of 40s. per annum reſiding in the place and by the principal
merchants

merchants (Com-burgeses, fellow-burgeses) inhabiting within its walls, as appears by some ancient returns that were then made: and in the by-laws of the corporation in the time of John Barker merchant, mayor, 1st Charles 1st; it is enacted, "that whensoever any writ for election of knights, citizens or burgeses for the parliament, shall come to the sheriffs of this city, the election shall be made by the mayor, aldermen and common council for the time being, and by the free-holders resident within the said city and by none else;" and it would certainly prevent much riot confusion and expence, had it taken place and thus continued. These when chosen were to answer as knights of the county and burgeses of the town and borough of Bristol. But since the restoration the returns often mention the election to be made by the citizens at large to the number of 2000 and upwards, and the right of election is now and has been (as far as the memory of man can go) in the mayor, aldermen, common-council and all the burgeses (except such as receive public relief from parishes or almshouses) and all the free-holders of the county of Bristol qualified according to law. This was the right universally agreed on at the many, too many contested elections in 1679, 1680, 1689, 1695, 1705, 1710, 1713, 1714, 1721, 1727, 1734, 1739, 1754, 1758, 1774, 1780, &c. and so continues; and each freeman's vote is regularly scrutinized by obliging him to produce the copy of his freedom and putting him to his oath as well as every free-holder, if required. Hence a general election of members here produces such riot disturbances and trouble and is attended often with such rancour and animosity between neighbours, as perhaps will not sometimes quite subside before the return of another election. So that party is said here to have been carried, unhappily carried to as high a pitch as in any place in England, and the long list above of contested elections in so small a compass of years is a lamentable but too convincing proof of it; though at present this party zeal begins to abate and a more prudent, and temperate way of thinking to take place.

Bristol being anciently parcel of the county of Gloucester, the sheriff of that county used to issue his precept to the mayor and commonalty to elect two burgeses, who were returned by the two sheriffs of Gloucester and the return endorsed on the back of the writ by the said sheriffs thus, "*Nomina Burgensium pro Communitatibus Burgi Bristolie electorum essend: ad dictum parliamentum Walterus Derby, Johannes Stoke.*" These were the last burgeses for Bristol, that were returned by the sheriffs of Gloucester 46th Edward 3d. anno 1372.

The following is the original form by the sheriff of Gloucestershire, 1314, the 8th of Edward 3d. apud Spalding on the dorse of the writ: "Quod venire facias duos burgenses de villâ Bristol, istud breve retornatum fuit custodi libertatis villæ Bristol, qui sic mihi respondebat: Eligere feci Robertum Wildemarsh et Thomam le Espoter essend. ad parliamentum apud Westm. in Octabus St. Hillarii, qui manucaptores essend. ad diem et locum prædictos invenire recusarunt, per quod propter eorum vim, malitiam et resistentiam de executione istius mandati ulterius faciendâ intermittere non potui." These Bristol burgesses, refusing to find manucaptors, put the sheriff of Gloucestershire to a nonplus.

The first writ issued to the sheriffs of Bristol for electing burgesses, after it was made a county within itself, is the following, which as it is curious and directs the qualifications of the members to be chosen, and was discovered in the White Tower and formerly unknown, I shall subjoin, translating it into English:

"Edvardus, Dei gratia, &c."

"Edward, by the grace of God, &c. to the sheriff of Bristol wisheth health. As by the advice of our council, we have appointed a parliament to be held at Westminster, on the morrow of Saint Edward the king's day next to come, to talk and treat with our prelates noblemen and chief men, of some difficult and urgent businesses, as well concerning us and expediting our war and the right of us and our crown beyond sea, as also of the state and defence of our kingdom of England and of the English church: we command you, strictly enjoining it, that you cause to be chosen two burgesses of the foresaid county out of the more discreet and more sufficient men, who have the best knowledge in navigation and exercise of merchandize; and cause them to come to the place and at the time appointed, so that the said burgesses may have full and sufficient powers for themselves and the community of the said county, to act and consent to those things, which then may happen to be ordained (the Lord favouring us) by the Common Council of this our kingdom in the business aforesaid: so as that our businesses do not remain in any wise undone, through a defect of the power in them, or through an improper choice of the said burgesses. We would not that by you or any other sheriff of our kingdom, any one should be elected of other condition than what is specified above, and let us have there the names of the said burgesses and this brief. Witness myself, at Westminster, the 4th of October, 47th year of our reign over England."

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On the dorſe thereof return is made thus: "*Virtute iſtius, &c.*" "By virtue of this brief I have cauſed to be choſen and to come to the preſent parliament of the Lord our King at Weſtminſter, on the morrow of St. Edward's day next, two burgeſſes of the more diſcreet and more ſufficient men, who have the beſt knowledge of navigation and merchandize, viz. Walter Derby and Thomas Beaupine."

To omit all other returns, which were indorſed on the writs themſelves, till 12th Henry 4th. 1410, when the firſt indenture for Briſtol was annexed to the writ thus:

"*Hæc indentura facta, &c.*"

"This indenture, made between John Spyne, ſheriff of Briſtol, on the one part, and T. Young, mayor of the town of Briſtol, T. Droys, T. Blunt, J. Soly, J. Leiceſtre, J. Sutton, W. Bouley, J. Fiſher, W. Frome, W. Barret, &c. &c. of the ſame town, on the other part, witneſſeth, that by virtue of the brief of the Lord the King, to one part of theſe indentures annexed, in a meeting held at Briſtol, Monday 26th day of October, 13th year of King Henry 4th. the more diſcreet and more ſufficient men being gathered together, Thomas Norton and David Dudbroke, merchants and burgeſſes of the town of Briſtol, were elected to be in the parliament to be held by the king at Weſtminſter, on the morrow of All Souls, to anſwer as well knights for the county of Briſtol as burgeſſes for the ſaid borough; which ſaid Thomas and David, being preſent at the election aforeſaid, were forewarned to appear together in the ſaid parliament on the morrow aforeſaid, with the conſent and aſſent of the ſaid mayor, and of the aforeſaid honeſt men and of the whole town of Briſtol, to do all things that may or ſhall happen to be ordained in the ſaid parliament, and all other things that the ſaid brief requires. In witneſs whereof, the aforeſaid ſheriff and the ſaid mayor, and all the honeſt men above-named, have alternately put their ſeals to theſe indentures, the year and date above-written."

The writs and indentures were nearly verbatim the ſame till about the 25th year of Henry 6th. 1447, which were both enlarged; the former by inserting in it the new ſtatutes, and directing the election to be made by the "majority of men dwelling in the ſame county, who have a freehold of forty ſhillings a year at leaſt above reſiſals, and reſidents there; and giving the ſheriff power to examine upon oath every elector, if he has forty ſhillings per annum: and if he make a return contrary to this ordinance, the judges at the aſſize were to make inquisition into the matter, and if the ſheriff be convicted, he ſhall incur the penalty of 100 l. and be impriſoned for one year without bail; and the knights

so returned shall lose their wages. They were to be knights, esquires, or gentlemen, none of low degree; they were to be chosen freely and indifferently by those at the election, and their names to be inserted in the indenture between the sheriff and electors: and such election being distinctly and openly made, it was to be sealed with his and their seals, and returned into Chancery, annexed to the brief. The election being finished, an indenture was made between the sheriff and the merchants and others of Bristol, residing and dwelling therein, who had a freehold of forty shillings value in the said town; the members being Thomas Young and John Sharpe, junior.

The following is a translation of the original indenture made between John Troyt the sheriff and the electors on this occasion: "Hæc indentura facta, &c." i. e. "This indenture, made at Bristol the last day of January, in the 25th year of the reign of Henry the sixth, after the Conquest, between John Troyt sheriff of Bristol on one part, Richard Foster mayor of the same town, John Burton, John Sharp, Thomas Halleway, Clement Bagot, William Cannings, John Stanley, John Shepward, &c. &c. burgeses and merchants, dwelling and residing in the town of Bristol, each of whom hath a free tenement of the value of forty shillings a year above reprisals in the same town, on the other part, witneseth, that by virtue of the brief of our Lord the King, tacked to one part of these indentures, in full court held at Bristol, Monday the 31st day of January last past, collecting the more discreet and more sufficient burgeses of the town of Bristol, Thomas Youn and John Sharp junior of the same town, merchants, dwelling and residing in the said town, were elected to be in the parliament of our Lord the King, to be held at Cambridge on the feast of St. Scolastica, the 10th day of February next ensuing, to answer in parliament as well as knights for the county of Bristol as burgeses for the borough and town aforesaid, according to the form of the charter of our Lord Edward late King of England, progenitor of our Lord the King who now is, granted to the burgeses of the town aforesaid, and by our Lord the King now confirmed, and according to the form of a certain other statute now lately published and enacted in the 8th year of our said Lord the King, likewise contained in the said brief, and also published in the statutes in the parliament of our Lord the King last held: which said Thomas Young and John Sharp have been forewarned to be and appear at the aforesaid parliament, at the day and place aforementioned, with the assent and consent of the said mayor and honest men aforesaid, who had the greater number of all those who can spend forty shillings clear yearly and of the whole commonalty of the town aforesaid, to answer, do, and consent to all and singular those things

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which shall happen to be ordained in the said parliament, and all and singular the things which the said brief in itself demands and requires. In witness of this, as well the aforefaid sheriff as the mayor aforefaid and all the honest men aforefaid have set their seals to these presents: Given at Bristol the day and year afore-mentioned."

They were all returned for years afterwards in the same form, and the right of election the same. Though the right of election since the Restoration has been different and altered, being since that time vested in all the burgesses or freemen at large (except paupers) and in freeholders of forty shillings per annum, yet the wisdom and propriety of choosing none but merchants or gentlemen, residing and dwelling within the city, cannot but be commended as a fit example for our future imitation. In the petition of the corporation for renewal of their charter, 14th Charles 2d. it was first inserted, that the parliament men might be chosen by the mayor and corporation and freeholders of forty shillings per annum only, but the clause was not thought proper by counsel at law, and so omitted.

In the early times of uncorrupt simplicity, when venality was not known nor practised, it appears the parliament men had wages allowed them by their constituents, for their trouble and independent maintenance. And by act of common council, in the time of William Canynges, mayor, 28th Henry 6th. it was ordained, that the parliament men should have two shillings and no more per day, for their expences. And in the year 1520, 11th Henry 8th. it was ordered by act of common council, that the burgesses serving in parliament should have twenty shillings paid them every session. Mayor's Kalendar, p. 139.

In the reigns of Henry 3d. and Edward 1st. no particular sum of expences to be allowed is mentioned in the writs, only in general that "the community by such expences be not burdened too much," *ultra modum haud gravetur*; but the 15th Edward 2d. particular sums began to be allowed, according to the quality of the representatives. Knights, by order, had three shillings per day each; esquires, though returned for counties, had but twenty pence per day. In the 16th Edward 2d. knights had four shillings per day, esquires returned for counties, cities, or boroughs, two shillings; but 19th Edward 2d. a knight for a shire had four shillings, an esquire for a shire three shillings, and a citizen or burges two shillings; and in the following reign, four shillings became the settled allowance for a member for a county, and two shillings for a citizen or burges.

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These allowances seem to be very mean, but when it is considered that the value of money then was ten or twelve times what it is now, (wheat being then at 3 d. per bushel) it will appear quite otherwise.

How are the times now altered since those days, in which the office of member of parliament was thought a great burden; and persons elected were obliged to find sureties (called manucaptors) for their attendance, and were paid their expences of going to London and attending, which used to be the sums above-mentioned! And no more was allowed, money being so scarce and provisions so cheap in consequence, as appears by the Chronic. Pet. p. 75. in the year 1336, when wheat per bushel was only 3 d. — a fat ox sold for 6 s. 8 d. — a fat sheep, 7 d. — six pigeons, 1 d. — a fat goose, 2 d. — a pig, 1 d. This was occasioned, as Knyghton and Fabian observe, by the great scarcity of money, owing to the wars with France and Scotland.

But how greater still is the alteration brought about by time in this respect now, when instead of the members having moderate wages allowed them to defray their expences in attending parliament, they are put to so much trouble and charge in treating their constituents to procure a seat for even a little borough; how enormous often the expence has been, let the contested elections for cities and counties shew, in which besides the rancour and ill will kindled amongst neighbours by a misguided zeal and party spirit, rich and respectable families have been often injured if not ruined, and their patrimonial estates incumbered.

How much these election expences have increased in a few years (and they are still increasing through the kingdom) the following account of disbursements in the several parishes in Bristol by the members on one side, at a contested election in the year 1714, will prove by comparing it with the enormous sums that are now advanced and expended in bringing voters from the most distant parts in coaches, and treating and maintaining them all during any long election; and there has been sad experience of too, too many of late, that have been carried on at the shameful expence of more than ten times the sum disbursed on this occasion. Blush! ye British electors, who boast of your liberty and giving a free vote, uninfluenced by any mean consideration of interest! &c. who yet so evidently do corruptly put the man of your choice who is to serve you with fidelity, and his friends to a most enormous expence!

Account of disbursements in the several parishes &c. in the city of Bristol in the election of Sir William Daines and Joseph Earle, Esq. for members of parliament for the said city in 1714:

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
St. Austin's, - -	48	12	1	T. Cary's disbursements,	5	10	0
Christ Church, - -	64	15	2	Woman's note at the Coun-			
Castle precincts, -	72	15	1	cil-house for cheefe,	0	5	5
St. John's, - -	35	17	6	Sundry notes for knots,	78	18	10
St. James's, - -	347	12	3	Jn. Trapwell for meat and			
St. Mary Port, - -	20	1	8	drink, - -	2	1	3
St. Michael's, - -	23	13	9	E. Garlick's disbursements,	13	7	0
St. Nicholas, - -	68	10	2	Ald. Shuter's ditto, -	10	0	0
St. Peter's, - -	27	6	0	— Nafh ditto, -	29	2	8
St. Phillip's, - -	207	11	11	— Whiting ditto, -	34	7	0
St. Mary Redcliff, -	176	2	8	Tho. Cary ditto, -	132	8	2
St. Stephen, - -	136	3	0	Edw. Mountjoy Esq; ditto,	21	4	6
St. Thomas, - -	84	4	0	Nath. Careless ditto, -	30	0	0
Temple, - -	189	4	6	H. Swymmer Esq; ditto,	70	0	0
St. Werburgh's, - -	97	2	4	Law charges in defend-			
Bonny's note for printing,	27	0	0	ing against seventy in-			
Woman's note under the				formations, -	108	0	0
Guildhall for beer,	47	17	0	H. Watts Esq; disb. -	30	0	0
J. Bate's for bread and				J. Belcher, - -	15	0	0
cheefe, - -	2	15	9	Total	£ 2257	9	7

More than twelve times this sum it is said was expended on each side (wasted rather) at a late contested election for the county of Gloucester; and how much for the city of Bristol the contending parties will easily call to mind not without some regret at the shameful profusion and expences in the late ill-judged groundless contests and unreasonable oppositions: et cui bono?—

O cives! cives! quæ tanta infania cepit!

A remedy for the evils and enormous expences attending on contested popular elections will, it is much to be lamented, remain a long while among those things, that are devoutly to be wished but with difficulty ever to be attained in this age of venality licentiousness and want of virtue public and private among the infatuated common people of this land. The remedy should be so calculated as to affect the head, to stop this influence of corruption in the lower members. *

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* As each member before he takes his seat in parliament is obliged to swear to his qualification, to a certain real estate he is truly and bona fide possessed of, so it were to be wished, a proper oath might be administered to him at the same time, that he has not given any money, treat, gratuity whatever, place or pension or promise of such to any freeman or freeholder by himself or any agent on his behalf for or towards obtaining his seat in parliament, not unlike the oath against simony

The following is a list of such members from the 23d. of Edward the 1st. 1295, who were returned to the parliament for the borough-town of Bristol, whilst part of Gloucestershire, the return being then made by the sheriffs of that county: But since it has been severed from that county, and made a county within itself, the 47th of Edward the 3d. 1373, the writs of summons have always issued to, and been returned by our own sheriffs. For this end sundry special returns, schedules and indentures relating to the election of such burghesses and knights (so far as any records are extant, either in the Tower of London, the Rolls, Petty-bag, Crown-office or among the archives of the city of Bristol, *) have been consulted and examined.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	<i>Regis Edwardi 1.</i>
23	1295	Westminster	John de Taverner, alias Tavern. (†)
26	1298	York	John de Taverner, J. de Chedde.
28	1300	Lincoln	John de Malmesbury.
30	1302	London	Ballivi Libertatis nullum mihi dederunt responsum.
33	1305	Westminster	J. de Wellisshot, J. Hafard. (†)
34	1306	Westminster	Johannes de Taverner, Rober. de Holherst. (†) A council at Westminster.
35	1307	Carlisle	Geffery Comper, Nich. Coke, (†)
[King Edward the 1st. died the 7th July, 1307.]			

<i>Regis Edwardi 2.</i>			
2	1309	Westminster	Stephanus de Bellsmonte, Robert Martyn.
4	1311	London	Rich. Colpeks, Johes Fraunceys.
5	1312	London	Johes Fraunceys, fenr. Adam Wellisshot.
6	1313	Windfor	Johes de Wellestoten, Johes Methelan.
6	—	Woodstock	Hugo de Langebrugge, Johes de Axebrugge.
7	1314	Westminster	Johes Finreys, Johes Tropin.

Robert

that they have imposed upon the clergy mutatis mutandis: and it is hoped, our virtuous House of Commons will one day pass such an act, which would prevent the riots, bloodshed and murders now not uncommon at some popular contested elections, as well as the ruinous expenses often incurred on these occasions, to the great distress of individuals and injury of families, who for years after do not retrieve the loss sustained thereby.

* Those marked thus (†) were communicated by the great antiquarian Brown Willis, Esq; and those with this mark (*) are from the archives of Bristol, &c.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
8	1315	Westminster	Robert Wildemarsh, Tho. de Espoter.
12	1319	York	Tho. de Salop, Robert de Lincoln.
12	—	Westminster	Gilbert Pokerell. Richard de Wodehull. (†)
15	1322	York	Williel de Cliffe, Johes Fraunceys.
16	1323	Rippon	Laurentius Pinchard, Tho. de Chiew.
19	1326	Westminster	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes de Fraunceys.
20	1326	Westminster	Ballivi nullum dederunt responsum.
[King Edward the 2d. was dethroned 25th of January 1326-7.]			
<i>Regis Edwardi 3.</i>			
1	1327	Westminster	Edward 2d's. parliament was still sitting at Westminster, assisting in the deposing K. Edward the 2d. which was done accordingly 25th of January.
1	—	Lincoln, September 15	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes de Romeney. [See Rymer's Fæd. tom. iv. p. 301.]
1	—	Westminster Nov. 13	The same persons.
1	—	York	Rich. Paves, Hugo le Hunt.
2	1328	New Sarum	Walterus de Espoter, Johes de Brockworth.
2	—	Northampton	Johes de Axebrugg, Hugo le Hunt. (†)
4	1330	§ Westminster	Hugo le Hunt, Richard le Paves, (*)
4	—	Winton at Eltham	Hugo le Hunt, Johes Fraunceys.
6	1332	Westminster	Johes de Romsey, Johes de Axebrugg.
7	1333	York	Johes Sterry, Johes de Strete.
8	1334	Westminster	Robertus Gyene. (†)
8	—	York	Johes de Ottery, Johes de Strete. (†)
9	1335	Westminster	Robert Gyene, Johes Fraunceys. (†)
9	—	York	Hugo de Langebrugg, Johes de Strete.
10	1336	Northampton	Johes Fraunceys, junr. Tho. Tropin.
10	—	Westminster	Robert de Gyene, Johes Fraunceys. (†)
11	1337	Westminster	Everardus de Fraunceys, Philipus de Torrrington.

Gilbertus

§ This year it was enacted, that a parliament should be holden once in every year. or oftener if need be.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
11	1337	Westminster	Johes Covely, Hugo Albrighton. (†)
12	1338	York	Gilbertus Peckerill, Rich. Woodhull. (†)
12	—	Northampton at Walton	Everardus le Franceys, Philipus de Torington.
12	—	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete. (†)
13	1339	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete. (†)
14	1340	Westminster	Jacobus Tilley, Tho. Tropyn. (†)
14	—	Westminster	Johes le Hunt, Johes de Wellishot.
15	1341	Westminster	Rober. Gyene, Philipus Torington.
17	1343	Westminster	Johes de Axebrugg, Johes Fraunceys.
20	1346	Westminster	Johes Wicomb, Johes Neel.
21	1347	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete.
22	1348	Westminster	Evarardus le Fraunceys, Johes de Strete.
22	—	Westminster	Everardus le Fraunceys, Tho. de Lodelow.
24	1350	Westminster	Johes Colyngton, Johes Seymour. (†)
26	1352	Westminster	Johes Seymour, (but one elected.)
27	1353	Westminster	Thomas Babbcary, Williel. Coumb.
29	1355	Westminster	Rich. le Spicer, Reginaldus le French.
31	1357	Westminster	Reginaldus le French, Rich. Brampton.
34	1360	Westminster	Tho. Babbcarey, Galfridus Beauflour.
34	—	Westminster	Reginaldus le French, Williel. Young.
36	1362	Westminster	Walterus Frampton, Edwardus Blanket.
37	1363	Westminster	Johes Serjeant, Johes Stoke. (†)
38	1364	Westminster	Willielmus Hayl, Williel. Cannings.
39	1365	Westminster	Williel. Sommerwell, Tho. Denband.
42	1368	Westminster	Johes Bathe, (upon a summons of one burgesfs.)
42	—	Westminster	Rich. Chamberleyn, Rich. Sydenham.
43	1369	Westminster	Johes Cheddre, Edmundus Blanket.
45	1371	Winchester	Johes Bathe. (A council held there.
46	1372	Westminster	Walterus Derby, Johes Stoke.
			[All these burgesfs for Bristol were returned by the sheriff of Gloucester.]
			<i>Returned by the sheriffs of Bristol.</i>
47	1373	Westminster	Walterus Derby, Tho. Beaupine.
50	1376	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Tho. Beaupine.

[King Edward 3d. died the 21st of June, 1377.]

Regis

A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

Regis Richardi 2.

2	1379	Glocester	Tho. Beaupine, Walterus de Frampton.
5	1382	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Johes Stokys.
6	1383	Westminster	Williel. Cannings, Johes Candavell. (†)
7	1384	New Sarum	Williel. Cannings, Williel. Sommerwell.
7	—	Westminster	Johes Cannings, * Williel. Frome.
8	1385	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Walterus Dodystill.
9	1386	Westminster	Elias Spelly, Tho. Knapp.
15	1392	Westminster	Williel. Frome, Johes Stephanys.
16	1393	Winchester	Tho. Beaupine, Johes Stephanys.
20	1397	Westminster	Williel. Frome, Johes Banbury.

[King Richard 2d. deposed by his parliament
Sept. 29, 1399.]

Regis Henrici 4.

1	1400	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Rich. Pannys.
3	1402	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Boys.
8	1407	Westminster	Johes Droys, Johes Mewton.
12	1411	Westminster	Tho. Norton, David Dudbroke.

[King Henry 4th. died the 20th of March,
1412-13.]

Regis Henrici 5.

1	1413	Westminster met May 15	Tho. Norton, Johes Leicestre.
2	1414	Leicester met April 30	Tho. Young, Johes Spine. (†)
2	—	Westminster	Thomas Blount, Johes Clive.
3	1415	Westminster	Rober. Ruffell, Rober. Colville.
5	1417	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Burton.
8	1420	Westminster	Tho. Norton, Johes Spine.
9	1421	Westminster	Marcus Williams, Rich. Trenode.

[King Henry 5th. died the 31st of August,
1422.] *Regis*

* Son of William Cannings.

A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

Regis Henrici 6.

1	1422	Westminster met Nov. 9	John Burton, Rogerus Liveden.
2	1423	Westminster	John Burton, Rogerus Liveden.
3	1424	Westminster	Rich. Trenode, Walterus Power.
4	1425	Westminster	Henricus Gildenay, John Langley. (†)
5	1426	Westminster	John Burton, Henricus Gildenay.
6	1427	Westminster	John Burton, Henricus Gildenay. (†)
7	1428	Westminster	Rich. Trenode, John Sharpe.
9	1431	Westminster	Tho. Fyſhe, Walterus Power. (†)
11	1433	Westminster	Rober. Ruffel, Walterus Power. (†)
13	1435	Westminster	Tho. Fiſhe, Tho. Young. (†)
15	1437	Cambridge	Tho. Young, Tho. Norton. (†)
20	1442	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp.
25	1447	Canterbury	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
27	1449	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
28	1450	Westminster	Tho. Young, John Sharp, junr.
29	1451	Westminster	Tho. Young, Williel. Cannings.
31	1453	Reading	John Shipward, merchant, Johes Bary, gent. (†)
33	1455	Westminster	Tho. Young, Williel. Cannings.
38	1460	Coventry	John Shipward, Phillipus Meed.
38	—	Westminster	Tho. Ruffel, John Sharp, junr.
38	—	Westminster	John Shipward, Philippus Meed.

[King Henry 6th was deposed by the following
King, the 4th of March 1460-61.]

Regis Edvardi 4.

6	1466	Westminster	Williel. Spencer, John Bagod,
7	1467	Westminster	Williel. Spencer, John Bagod. (†)
12	1472	Westminster	John Twynyhoe, John Bagod.
17	1477	Westminster	John Hawkins, Edmund Westcot.
22	1482	Westminster met Jan. 20	Edmund Westcot, Williel. Wykam (*).

[King Edward the 4th. died the 9th of April
1483.]

A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

Regis Edwardi 5.

There was no parliament during this King's reign, which lasted but two months and thirteen days, when he was murdered with his brother Richard Duke of York in the Tower of London.

Regis Richardi 3.

1	1484	Westminster Jan. 23.	John Twynyhoe, Robert Strange. (*) The first was recorder of Bristol, 1st Richard 3d.
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Regis Henrici 7.

1	1485	Westminster Nov. 7.	John Esterfield, Robert Strange. (*)
3	1487	Westminster Nov. 9.	John Esterfield, Hen. Vaughan. (*)
5	1489	Westminster Jan. 13.	Williel. Toker, Johes Foster. (*)
7	1492	Westminster January.	
11	1496	Westminster Oct. 13.	Hen. Vaughan, Phillippus Ringston. (*)
13	1498	Westminster	
21	1504	Westminster	Hen. Dale, Tho. Snygg. (*)

[King Henry the 7th. died the 22d of April 1509.]

Regis Henrici 8.

1	1509	Westminster Jan. 21.	Rich. Vaughan, Hen. Dale. (*)
3	1511	Westminster Jan. 15.	Tho. Smyth, Rich. Hoby. (*)

Rober.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
6	1515	Westminster	
		Jan. 3.	
14	1523	Black Friars,	Rober. Thorn, Rich. Hoby. (*)
		Lond. Ap. 15.	
20	1529	Westminster	Rich. Abyngdon, John Shipman. (*)
		Nov. 3.	
28	1537	Westminster	Nicho. Thorn, Roger. Coke. (*)
		June 8.	
33	1542	Westminster	David Croke, Rober. Ellyot. (†)
			[King Henry the 8th. died the 28th of Jan. 1546-7.]

Regis Edvardi 6.

1	1547	Westminster	
6	1552	Westminster	John Walshe, David Harris. (†)
			[King Edward the 6th. died July 6th, 1553.]

Reginæ Mariæ.

1		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Recorder, David Harris, Gent. (†)
1		Oxford	John Walshe, Esq; Tho. Lancedon. (†)

Regis et Reginæ Philippi et Mariæ.

1 & 2		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq. (†)
2 & 3		Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Recorder, Wm. Chester, Alderman. (†)
4 & 5		Westminster	Williel. Tindal, Robert. Butler. (†)
			[Queen Mary died the 17th of Nov. 1558.]

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
<i>Regina Elizabethæ.</i>			
1	1559	Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Williel. Carr, Esq. (†)
5	1563	Westminster	John Walshe, Esq; Williel. Carr, Esq. (†)
9	1567		Williel. Carr, Esq; Tho. Chestre, Esq. (*)
13	1571	Westminster	John Popham, Esq; Recorder, Phil. Langley. (*)
14	1572	Westminster	John Popham, Esq; Phillip Langley. (†)
27	1585	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Rich. Cole. (†)
28	1586	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Tho. Aldworth, Esq. (†)
31	1589	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Wm. Salterne, Merchant. (†)
35	1593	Westminster	Tho. Hannam, Esq; Recorder, Richard Cole, Alderman. (†)
39	1597	Westminster	George Snygg, Esq; Recorder, Thomas James, Merchant. (†)
43	1601	Westminster	George Snygg, Esq; Recorder, John Hopkins, Alderman. (†)
[Queen Elizabeth died the 24th of March, 1602-3.]			
<i>Regis Jacobi.</i>			
1	1603	Westminster	Geo. Snygg, Esq; Tho. James, Esq. (†)
	1605	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq.
12	1614	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; Tho. James, Esq. (†)
18	1620	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; John Guy, Alderman. (†)
		met Jan. 20, 1620-1.	
21	1623	Westminster	John Barker, Esq; John Guy, Esq. (†)
[King James the 1st. died the 27th of March 1625.]			
<i>Regis Caroli 1.</i>			
1	1625	Westminster	Nich. Hide, Esq; John Whitson, Esq. (†)
		met June 8.	
1	1625	Westminster	John Whitson, Esq; John Doughty, Esq. (†)
		met Feb. 6, 1625-26.	

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
3	1627	Westminster met March 17.	John Doughty, Esq; John Barker, Merchant. (†)
15	1640	Westminster met April 13.	J. Glanvill, Esq; Recorder, Hump. Hook, Esq; (†)
	1640	Westminster met Nov. 3.	Hump. Hook, Esq; Rich. Long, Alderman. (†)
17	1642	Westminster	Richard Aldworth, Esq; counsellor at law, Luke Hodges, Esq; (†)
			[§ King Charles the 1st. was murdered by his rebellious subjects January 30th 1648-9.]
			King Charles 2d. began Jan. 30.
6	1654	Westminster	(a) Miles Jackson, Robt. Aldworth, (*)
8	1656	Westminster	(b) Robt. Aldworth, John Dodridge, Recorder, (*) Major General Desborough in the room of Dodridge displaced.
	1659		

Regis

§ In the year 1653, on the 20th of April the Rump parliament was turned out by the army; it had sat twelve years, six months and seventeen days, during which time, viz. on the 30th of January 1648-9, by an act of their own authority they caused his sacred Majesty King Charles the 1st. to be most barbarously murdered, by severing his head from his body before the gates of his own palace, he having reigned 23 years 10 months and 3 days. King Charles the 2d. his son began his reign the 30th of January, on which day the regicides had murdered his father, although the regal authority did not take place until the happy restoration of King Charles the 2d. in the year 1660.

(a) During the state of usurpation in this kingdom were the following proceedings, in what they then called a parliament, viz. on the 12th of December 1653, the Speaker, and most part of the members left the house, and surrendered their power to Oliver Cromwell, who took upon him the style of Protector.—On the 10th of June 1654, the writs bore date by Oliver Cromwell's authority, for calling a new parliament to meet at Westminster by the 3d of September following, the representatives that were chosen for Bristol were Miles Jackson, and Robert Aldworth, (see Mr. Baves's manuscript, and many others;) this parliament was dissolved by Oliver the 22d of January 1654-5.

(b) On the 3d of July 1656, new writs were issued out to call a parliament at Westminster the 17th of September following; at Bristol were chosen, the 20th of August, Robert Aldworth, and John Dodridge. But Major General Desborough petitioning the parliament against Dodridge, Cromwell displaced him, and Desborough sat with Aldworth. On the 4th of February 1657-8 Oliver dissolved this parliament; and the grand usurper's death happened upon the day of his birth, being the 3d of September following. The parliament which met at Westminster the 7th

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
			<i>Regis Caroli 2.</i>
			Regular Parliaments.
12	1660	Westminster met April 25.	(c) J. Stephens, Esq; Recorder, J. Knight, senr. Merchant. (†)
13	1661	Westminster met May 8.	(d) Sir Humphrey Hook, and Sir J. Knight, Knts. Tho. Earl, Esq; J. Knight, Esq; (†) — A double return the two first members were continued and sat anno 1670.
29	1678	Westminster met March 6, 1678-9.	Sir Robert Cann, Knt. and Bart. Sir J. Knight, Knt. (†)
30	1679	Westminster	Sir Robert Cann, Bart. Sir J. Knight, Knt. (†)
31	1680	Oxford	Sir Richard Hart, Knt. Tho. Earl, Esq; (†)
32	1680	Westminster	Sir Robt. Cann, Bart. Sir Walter Long, Bart. (*)
			[King Charles the 2d. died the 6th of Feb. 1684-5.]

Regis

of January 1658-9, was called Dick's Convention-Parliament, being the first which he called. Richard's party deserting him, he consented to dissolve his parliament April the 2d 1659; after which he had a *quietus est*, for on the 25th of April following the house was shut up, and entrance denied the members. But however, on the 7th of May following, the Rump sat again, but was afterwards turned out of the house by Lambert, the 13th of October following. And the 26th of December 1659, the Rump was re-admitted, and on the 21st of February 1659-60, the secluded members were restored. And the 15th of March following the parliament was dissolved, and another called to be holden at Westminster April the 25th, 1660.

(c) This parliament met at Westminster the 25th of April 1660. And on the 1st of May his Majesty's gracious letters and declaration were read in the house, &c. On the 13th of September following the parliament was adjourned to the 6th of November, having passed an act for disbanding the army, and an act of indemnity, (the regicides excepted;) and on the 29th of November 1660, the parliament was dissolved.

Admiral Pen, a Bristol man, was polled for, but the corporation favoured Stephens.—Pen was returned for Weymouth.

(d) The writs for summoning a parliament in England to convene on May the 8th 1661, were sealed the 9th of March. And on the 8th of May the parliament met at Westminster, and the House of Lords were again restored to their ancient privileges; and the convocation also began. On the 30th of July they were adjourned to the 20th of November. This parliament often met to dispatch business, and was often adjourned or prorogued, until the 25th of January 1678-9, on which day this long parliament was dissolved by proclamation, after they had sat nigh 17 years.

A. R. A. D. Parliaments held at

Regis Jacobi 2.

1	1685	Westminster met May 19, 1685.	Sir J. Churchill, Knt. recorder, died soon. (*) And Sir Rich. Hart, Knt. was chosen in his room the 10th December. (†) Sir Richard Crump, Knt. (†) [King James the 2d. abdicated the throne February 13, 1688-9.]
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Regis et Reginae Willielmi et Mariae.

1	1688 89	Westminster	Sir Richard Hart, Sir J. Knight, Knts. (*) — Elected to be sent to the convention, who vo- ted against the Prince and Princess of Orange being made King and Queen.
2	1690	Westminster	Sir Rich. Hart, and Sir John Knight, Knts. (†)

Regis Willielmi. 3.

7	1695	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
10	1698	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
12	1700	Westminster	Sir Tho. Day, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (*)
13	1701	Westminster	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†) [King William died the 8th of March 1701-2.]

Reginae Annae.

1	1702	Westminster Aug. 20.	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)
4	1705	Westminster	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†) — This was the first parliament of Great-Britain constituted by the Union, which commenced on May-day 1707, where the last members sat. Sessions the 1st, October 23d 1707, sat on busi- ness, and was dissolved April 15th 1708. The 2d parliament summoned for July 8th 1708.
7	1708	Westminster Nov. 16.	Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Robt. Yate, Esq; (†)

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at
9	1710	Westminster Nov. 25.
12	1713	Westminster Oct. 1.
1	1714 15	Westminster

Parliaments since the Union.

The 3d parliament was summoned for Nov. 25th 1710.

(a) Edw. Colston, Esq; Joseph Earl, Esq; (†)

The 4th parliament was summoned for October 1st, 1713.

(b) Tho. Edwards, junr. Esq; Jos. Earl, Esq; (†)

[Queen Ann died the 1st of August 1714.]

Regis Georgii 1.

The 5th parliament was summoned for March 17, 1714-15.

(c) Sir Wm. Daines, Knt. Jos. Earl, Esq; (*)

The 6th parliament was summoned for May 10th 1722.

Joseph

(a) The 26th of September 1710, a proclamation was published for calling a new parliament. The elections were carried on with great warmth every where. The election began at Bristol, where the citizens chose their worthy benefactor Edward Colston, Esq; and Joseph Earl, Esq. The sessions began November 25, 1710; during which elections were regulated, every member for a borough was to have 300l. per ann. freehold or copyhold; and every knight of a shire 600l. per annum: the House did not break up the sessions till the 12th of June 1711, after several prorogations they met the 14th of January 1711-12, this sessions the parliament settled the building fifty new churches in London. The sessions which met the 6th of June 1712, concluded peace with France: on the 21st of June the house was adjourned to the 8th of July, from which time by several adjournments and prorogations a proclamation was published the 5th of August 1713 for dissolving the parliament and for calling a new one.

(b) The writs were issued out the 17th of August 1713. The election for Bristol began Monday the 7th of September 1713; the candidates were Tho. Edwards and Joseph Earl, Esq; and Sir William Daines, Knt. the election was carried on with much heat on both sides, in so much that the poll was closed the Thursday following, and the two first were returned duly elected: and the parliament met the 1st of October 1713, on the 18th by proclamation they were prorogued to the 15th of February 1713-14 when they dispatched business, and the 2d of March the Queen made her speech, on the 6th of March they adjourned to the 31st inst. 1714, on the 9th of July following the Queen made her last speech to them and prorogued them to the 10th of August 1714. But Sunday morning a little after 7 of the clock being the 1st of August, Queen Ann died in the year 1714.

(c) The candidates at this election were Sir William Daines, Knt. Joseph Earl, Esq; Thomas Edwards and Phillip Freke, Esqrs; there appeared at the close of the poll a majority for the two

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
7	1721	Westminster	(d) Joseph Earl, Esq; Sir Abra. Elton, Bart. (*)
		May 10.	The 7th parliament was summoned for Nov. 28th, 1727.
			<i>Regis Georgii 2.</i>
1	1727	Westminster	(e) John Scroope, Esq; Recorder, Abra. Elton, jun. Esq. (*)
		Nov. 28.	N. B. King George the 1st. died the 11th of June 1727.
			The 8th parliament was summoned for June 13th, 1734.

W

(a) Sir

latter, who were carried about the cross according to custom, in the mean time the sheriffs returned the two former,—Freke and Edwards petition, it was renewed the 2d and 3d sessions.—This was the 1st septennial parliament of King George the 1st. This parliament sat eight sessions; and was dissolved March the 10th 1721-22.

(d) The candidates were Joseph Earl, Esq; Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. and William Hart, senr. Esq; the two first were returned. This was the second septennial parliament which sat six sessions of King George the 1st, was dissolved August the 5th 1727. William Hart, Esq; petitioned.

(e) This was the third septennial parliament since the death of Queen Anne, and the 1st of George the 2d. Mr. Scroope was a joint-secretary of the treasury. It sat seven sessions, was dissolved April 18, 1734.

(a) In the first septennial parliament of King George the 2d 1727, the representatives for Bristol were John Scroope, Esq; recorder and secretary to the treasury, and Abraham Elton, junr. Esq; Mr. Scroope in the year 1732 when the excise scheme on tobacco was brought into the house, was found to be a great promoter of and a voter for that bill, also he voted against the repeal of the septennial act in the year 1734, all which gave a general disgust to the principal electors of Bristol, who were determined to oppose his election in the year 1734. On Wednesday the 15th of May it began, the candidates were Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. Thomas Coster and John Scroope, Esqrs. the poll continued nine days to the 24th of May, on closing of which when cast up the numbers stood, for Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. 2428, for Mr. Coster, 2071, for Mr. Scroope, 1866, majority for Mr. Coster 205, whereupon the sheriffs returned the two former. Notwithstanding a petition from the mayor, &c. was brought into parliament for an undue election against Mr. Coster in favour of Mr. Scroope who in the end was obliged to withdraw the petition, not being able to prove one allegation therein. These members voted against the convocation in the second septennial parliament, which sat seven sessions, of which Mr. Southwell sat two, it was dissolved April 28, 1741.

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
7	1734	Westminster	(a) Sir Ab. Elton, Bart. Tho. Coster, Esq. (b) died.
12	1739		Edw. Southwell, Esq. (b)
			The 9th parliament was summoned for June 25th, 1741.
13	1741	Westminster	(c) Sir Ab. Elton, Bart. Edw. Southwell, Esq. (*)
14	1742		(d) Robert Hoblyn, Esq.
			The 10th parliament was summoned for Aug. 13th, 1747.
20	1747	Westminster	(e) Edw. Southwell, Esq; Rob. Hoblyn, Esq. (*)
27	1754	Westminster	Robert Nugent, and Rich. Beckford, Esqrs.
29	1756	Westminster	(f) Jarrit Smyth, Esq; in the room of Richard Beckford, deceased.
			<i>Regis Georgii 3.</i>
1	1760	Westminster	Sir Jarrit Smyth, Bart. Robert Nugent, Esq.

Robert

(b) Thomas Coster, Esq; on Sunday the 30th of September 1739, died at his house in the College Green.

(b) To fill up his vacancy a new writ was ordered for another election which began Wednesday the 28th of November 1739, the candidates were Edward Southwell, principal secretary of state for Ireland, and Henry Combe, Esq; Mr. Southwell's interest was supported with Mr. Coster's friends, and Mr. Combe's by the corporation, &c. The poll was kept open for fourteen days at closing of which the numbers stood thus, for Mr. Southwell 2651, for Mr. Combe 2203, majority 448. N. B. There remained upwards of 200 neutral votes.

(c) There was no opposition this election. This was the third septennial parliament of King George the 2d. which sat six sessions and was then dissolved June 18, 1747.

(d) Sir Abraham Elton, Bart dying the 19th of October 1742, a new election to fill his vacancy began Wednesday the 24th of November 1742, date of the writ was November 16, 1742, when Robert Hoblyn, Esq; son-in-law to the late Thomas Coster, Esq; was chosen without opposition.

(e) Writs being issued out for a general election this year, it began at Bristol Wednesday the 1st of July 1747, Mr. Samuel Dicker declared as one of the candidates, but before the poll was opened he declined and left the town, therefore there was no opposition, this being the fourth septennial parliament in the reign of King George the 2d. which sat seven sessions: in the sixth session an act passed for altering the stile of the year to the first of January, and also a bill for naturalization of the Jews.

(f) The election came on the 2d of March 1756, Thomas Spencer, Esq; and Jarrit Smyth, Esq; candidates; poll closed the 17th, J. Smyth declared duly elected and returned the 18th of March, but a petition was presented against the return,

A. R.	A. D.	Parliaments held at	
6	1766	Westminster	Robert Nugent, Esq; vacated his seat by accepting the office of First Lord of Trade, and was re-chosen Dec. 16 this year, without opposition; he was also created Lord Viscount Clare of the kingdom of Ireland.
7	1768	Westminster	Lord Clare, Matthew Brickdale, Esq. Lord Clare vacated his seat the 27th June, on being chosen Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, and was re-chosen without opposition.
14	1774	Westminster	Henry Cruger, Edmund Burke, Esqrs.
20	1780	Westminster	Matthew Brickdale, Esq; Sir Henry Lippincot.— The latter dying, a new writ was sent down for electing another in his room; which occasioned as great a contest here as was ever known, on G. Daubeny, Esq; declaring himself; who was opposed by H. Cruger, Esq; formerly the popular member; but G. Daubeny, Esq; was returned. Matthew Brickdale, and Geo. Daubeny, Esqrs.
24	1784	Westminster	Matthew Brickdale, Esq; Henry Cruger, Esq. — The latter was chosen against Mr. Daubeny the other candidate, though Mr. Cruger was then abroad in America, and he is there a resident since the year 1785.

C H A P. VI.

On the TRADE of BRISTOL, FOREIGN *and* DOMESTIC.

BY the good government of the city, by the knowledge, diligence and integrity of its merchants, the trade foreign and domestic has from time immemorial been great and on the increase; as have been the number of ships belonging to the merchants of this port. It was a place very early addicted to trade, as William of Malmſbury, in the year 1139, before quoted, (vid. p. 57,) observes of it: it is thus characteriſed by all writers. Georgius Braunius in *Theatrum Urbium*, lib. 3. indice, calls Bristol “*famosiſſimum Angliæ Emporium, &c.*” The moſt famous place of commerce in England next to London, frequented by merchants of many nations, well provided with rivers for bringing in of ſhips, the manner of its ſituation with the high riſe of the tides performing this; the tide not ſpreading here abroad, but ſwelling up * 60 feet in height:” and in the 4th book, “the city,” ſays he, “is well built, full of inhabitants, and merchants of divers countries; they ſail twice a year to Newfoundland a fiſhing.”

Mercator in his *Atlas* placing it in Somerſetſhire, as ſome have done in Glouceſterſhire, though truly belonging to neither, being a city and county of itſelf, deſcribes it thus, — “*Urbs præcipua Briſtollia pulcherrimis Ædificiis, gemino fluvio & muro, portu, exterorum commerciis, Incolarum frequentia illustratur.*” — Cluverius in his geography, ſays, “*Briſtollium vulgo Briſtow Hiſpanicarum mercium nobile Emporium, ut Southampton Gallicarum.*” — It is recorded in Ricaut’s *kalendar*, to have been very early famous for its trade to Andaluſia. And in the year 1466, the *Mary*, a goodly ſhip (probably one of Mr. Canynges’s) whoſe cargo was valued at above 12,000 marks, was taken at the Land’s-End by Vice Admiral Slomp of France. In a manuſcript deed “of the appropriation of the church of Wotton to the monastery of St. Auguſtin, Briſtol,” dated 1131, this city is thus characteriſed, “*Briſtollium portus publicus & municipium famoſum pro receptione hominum in multitudine*”

* The tide riſes ſo high at Chepſtow, but at Briſtol about 25 or 30 feet only; above 32 at Rownham.

diuē copiosa de diversis mundi partibus illuc undique confluentium." By the charter of King John, we may learn somewhat of the customs and commerce of the place in that early period; more so by that of Edw. 3. in which time it was so considerable, that it was then entitled to the reputation of being the second city in the kingdom for trade and populousness; and had so much weight as to obtain a charter for constituting it a county within itself, and for ascertaining the pomerium or bounds of the city. This city fell early into the Newfoundland cod-fishing, says De Wit, (Interest of Holland,) 1669.

In Rymer's *Fœdera*, v. 1. fol. 134, we find that "several of this ever-industrious city had, in the year 1339, set up looms for weaving woollen cloths, in conformity to an act of parliament, that no English wool should be exported out of this kingdom, but be made into cloth within the realm of England, &c." It was at this time great encouragement was given to the cloth manufacture, which the King seems to have removed out of Flanders, (which was the grand mart or staple of wool then,) and settled it in several towns in this kingdom,* especially at Bristol, which set the example followed after by the neighbouring counties: before this the Flemings used to buy the English wool and manufacture it themselves, but from this act may be derived the source of this staple manufacture of the kingdom. — One Mr. Blanket, then sheriff of Bristol, and many other inhabitants engaged largely in it, set up looms in their own houses, and carried it soon to great perfection; it produced more good to the state than ever was foreseen by the legislature of that time, who formed and projected that useful act of parliament. This cloth trade was carried on in a flourishing manner for a long series of years; especially in the parishes of Temple and St. Thomas, many manufactures at different times were encouraged in Bristol.

It was full of clothiers, weavers and tuckers all Hen. 8th's reign; and in 1610 the magistrates gave great encouragement by lending money to set up the Colchester bays-manufacture; and at the Smiths'-Hall were all beggars and poor people set to work at spinning and stocking-making, under the inspection of the parish officers; which shews how attentive they were to promote industry among the inhabitants. — The trading companies of the city were put under proper

* *Lcl. Collect.* v. 2. p. 689. "In 29 Edw. 3. was the staple of wools revoked out of Flanders, and set at divers places in England, at Westminster, Cantorbyry, Chichester and Bristow, Lyncolne and Hulle." As early as the 9th Edw. 2. 1316, there was a duty or custom paid the King for every sack of wool carried out of the port of Bristol half a mark; and for every 300 sheep skins half a mark, and for every last of hides one mark; which the King complained the mayor and bailiff had withheld from him, or his assign, Martin Horncastle, the collector and receiver. *Rot.* 167. a.

proper regulations. — In the days of Edward 4. this city was famous for the woollen manufacture, as appears by the statute 17 Edw. 4. c. 5. whereby this only city, together with London, was exempted from sealing their cloths, kerseys, &c. with a head, according to stat. 4. of the same king, when all other places were obliged by it, and long before, viz. statute the 12th Rich. 2. 1. 14. it is to be noted, that Bristol had excused itself from pursuing the statute of the 47th Edw. 3. c. 1. relating the measure and aulnage of draps, to which by stat. Rich. 2. they were particularly limited.

The cloth manufacture indeed, once a staple here, (for the government and regulation of which the mayor had the name of Mayor of the Staple of Bristol, and held a court called the Staple-Court,) has now much declined, being removed to other places, and to the North of England, where labour is cheaper: and though immense fortunes were formerly gained by it here, the parts of the city where it was principally carried on, have greatly declined with it, and left the roomy houses in Temple-street, where still remains the Weavers'-Hall and Tuckers'-Hall, to be inhabited by labourers of another kind. — In Edw. 4th's time they complained of the decay of the trade owing to the wool being exported into foreign parts; also on account of the removing of the staple from Bayonne, where was a great sale of Bristol drapery; and the Thoulouse wool being brought another way into other parts of England.

In the year 1459, 37 Hen. 6. Mr. Robert Strange, a great merchant of Bristol, (afterwards founder of St. John's almshouse,) had a goodly ship spoiled by the Genoese in the Mediterranean; this ship had a cargo of spices and other valuable merchandise, which the Genoese, who could not brook the success of our merchants, seized; this wrong when King Henry understood, he made reprisal on the effects of the Genoese merchants in London, whom he also arrested and imprisoned until they gave good security to make good the loss, which amounted to 9000 marks. — The Bristol kalendar calls these merchants strangers, Lombard Janneys, by whom are understood the Genoese, who followed usury and other methods of gain, which the Lombards at this time did, who were the first bankers in London; whence Lombard-street in London, where the bankers reside, took its name. Kal. p. 122. 6.

One Thomas Strange, probably the son of the above Robert, had twelve ships at one time, says Wm. of Worcester, p. 224, in 1480. — The Brass Battery began here about 1704: one Sir Simon Clark was the first inventor of making copper: Mr. Coster and Mr. Wayne acted under him as assayers, who afterwards established it here under Sir Abraham Elton. — The said Sir Simon invented white glass, and casting iron in loam.

The manufactory of zinc out of calamine stone and black-jack, was established at Bristol about the year 1743, when Mr. Champion obtained a patent for making it. About 200 tons of zinc were annually made at his copper-works, where the manufactory was set up first; and afterwards zinc began to be made at Hapham, near Bristol, by Mr. James Emerson, who had been many years manager of that branch under Mr. Champion, and his successor in the business. — This operation of procuring zinc from calamine was held at first a great secret, and though it be now better known, it is but lately that there were any works of that kind established in any other part of either England or Europe, except those last-mentioned. In a circular kind of oven, like a glass-house furnace, there are placed pots of about four feet each in height, much resembling oil jars; into the bottom of each is inserted an iron tube, which passes through the floor of the furnace into a vessel of water. The pots are filled with a mixture of calamine, or black-jack and charcoal, and the mouth of each is then close stopped with clay. The fire being properly applied, the metallic vapour of the calamine issues through the iron tube, there being no other place through which it can escape, and the air being excluded it does not take fire, but is condensed in small particles in the water, and being remelted is formed into ingots and sent to Birmingham under the name of zinc or spelter.

Cambden, Busching in his *Polit. Commercial Geography of Europe* in High Dutch, 1762, and Anderson, all agree in giving Bristol the name of “a renowned commercial city.” “A considerable part of it,” says Busching, “lies on the South side of the river Avon, and a still larger part on the North side; having a communication by three stone bridges, also a draw-bridge for letting ships into the Key, or little river stiled From. It is by far the largest city in Britain next after London, containing above thirteen thousand houses, and above one hundred thousand inhabitants, both which are constantly increasing. It is said by some to use two thousand maritime vessels, coasters as well as ships, employed in foreign voyages; and it has many important manufactories. Its glass bottle, drinking glass, and plate glass manufacture alone occupying fifteen large houses. Its brass pan and brass wire manufactures are also very considerable. It has a most extensive quay, with dock-yards, &c. for ship-building, sundry good hospitals, and many almshouses and other charitable foundations; inso-much, that this city for its prudent regulations is perhaps outdone by none, and for its vast commerce, wealth and shipping by very few trading cities in Europe.” Dr. Campbel in his *Political Survey of Great Britain*, v. 1. p. 147. gives the following just account of the trade of Bristol, “That great mart,
from

from which the conjunction of the waters of the Severn, Wye, &c. receives the name of the Bristol Channel, is as conveniently situated as can well be imagined, at the conflux of two beautiful rivers, the Avon and the Froom, having bridges over both; the latter falls into the former a little below the city, and their joint streams into the Severn at about four miles distance. On the North side of the town runs the Quay along the river Froom, to which ships even of great burden come up; though for the conveniency of commerce many remain in Hungeroad, and others at Kingroad, which is still lower. If we consider domestic trade, or inland navigation, Bristol is without a rival, for by the Avon she draws to herself commodities from Warwickshire; by the help of the Teem, she receives those of Herefordshire and Shropshire; the Wye brings her also some part of the tribute of the former of those countries, and of Radnorshire; and if there be any thing yet left in Herefordshire and Shropshire, the Lugg drains them both: Monmouthshire and the adjacent parts of Wales send their supplies by the Uske; and a great part of Somersetshire communicates both goods and manufactures by the Ivel, the Parrot and Tone; and Cornwall sends hither its tin and copper for the pewter and brass wire and copper company manufactories. Not satisfied with all this, the Bristol traders deal largely by land, and often interfere with those of Hull in the North, and London in the South. — As to foreign commerce, if we view it in gross, Bristol is next to London; but if the value of that commerce be compared with the size of the respective cities, Bristol has the start; and except in a very few branches, to the participation of which of late she begins to put in her claim in point of intercourse with all parts of the world, her correspondence is as extensive."

Such are the accounts of it by a foreigner, and by a Briton, and that they have not much exaggerated the description, will appear in the sequel, by considering its early attachment to navigation, and its progress in trade. It was grown so opulent by its commerce in the year 1377, that the mayor and commonalty lend the King, Rich. 2d. 500 marks, which is the first instance in the *foedera* of a lay community's lending money to the crown, except London; and in the year 1379, the "*probi homines de Bristow*," lend 100 marks to him, when Gloucester lent only 40, and the greatest 100, which was Cambridge. *Fœd. v. 7. p. 210.* And in 1386, when the kingdom was threatened with a French invasion, they lend 200*l.* *Fœd. T. 7. 543.* as much again as York or any city except London. — Thus the city of Bristol leads the van in all the loans.

In Sir Robert Cotton's Abridgement of the Records, p. 623. Henry 6. directs the fees of liveries of his justices to be paid yearly out of the customs of the ports of London, Bristol and Hull; whence may be inferred those ports, especially the two first, carried on the greatest foreign commerce. In the roll of Edw. 3d's fleet, at the siege of Calais, 1347, in the Cotton Library, and Hackluit's Collect. of Voyages, part 1. p. 118. copied from the King's wardrobe, we find the following proportion between the number of ships furnished by Bristol and the other ports.

	<i>Ships.</i>	<i>Mariners.</i>
Weymouth	20	264
	15	263 according to Hackluit.
Lime	4	62
Pool	4	94
Wareham	3	59
Bristol	22	608
London	25	662
Seton	2	25

Here we see how nigh the number of Bristol ships and mariners approaches to that of London, and how much they exceed every other port besides. By statute 4 of Hen. 4. it was ordained that all mariners of ships and other vessels laden with goods and merchandise, entering the realm, or passing out of the same, shall be charged and discharged in some great port, and not in any creek or small river, upon pain of forfeiture of the goods; and King Henry 5. by proclamation dated 26 Oct. anno regni 16. commanded all officers to see this act put strictly in execution. — These acts made greatly for the port of Bristol, and much improved its commerce; and we find soon afterwards the magistrates, aware of this advantage and jealous of their liberties and traffic, complaining of some breaches of this law to the injury of the King's customs at Bristol, by vessels unloading their cargoes at ports and creeks in the Bristol Channel, and at Chepstow and other places in Wales. — In the letters patent 17 Hen. 7. Plymouth, Dartmouth, Sandwich, and others are stiled "minores portus quam Bristol."

In 1442, (Rot. Parl. 20 Hen. 6.) when a naval force was deemed necessary, the Commons point out where ships were to be had, "at Bristol, the Nicholas of the Tower, and Katherine of Bolton."

In 1449, Wm. Canynges is distinguished as a very great merchant here. — In Rymer's f. 11. p. 226. we find two commendatory letters from Hen. 6. 1449, one to the Master General of Prussia, the other to the Magistrates of

Dantzick, both in behalf of two of Canynges factors residing in Prussia, requesting all favour and countenance to the said two factors of Canynges, whom the King calls "his beloved eminent merchant of Bristol."

In 1450 we find by a treaty with Christian King of Denmark (Foed. T. ii. p. 264.) three places prohibited us from trading to, Iceland, Halgesland and Finmark; but the above treaty and an English act of parliament dispensed with in favour of Canynges, (p. 277. foed. v. 11.) the Danish King allowing Canynges in consideration of the great debt due to Canynges from his subjects of Iceland and Finmark to lade certain English ships with merchandize for those prohibited places, and there to lade fish and other goods in return: wherefore during his mayoralty of Bristol, because Canynges had done good service unto the King he allowed the same to be done for two years to come on two ships, &c.

It is clear that William Canynges and other merchants about this time had each several ships employed in foreign trade. William of Worcester says p. 99, of Canynges "In navibus &c." i. e. In ships he employed 800 men for eight years, and of his ships he had le Mary Canynges of 400 tons (doliatis) le Mary Redcliff of the burden of 500 tons, le Mary and John of the burden of 900 tons, which cost him in the whole 4000 marks, le Galyott of 50 tons, le Catherin of 140 tons, le Mary Batt 220 tons, le Margaret of Tylny of 200 tons, le Lyttle Nicholas of 140 tons, le Katheryn of Boston 220 tons, le — a ship lost in Iselond about 160 tons burden. Also beside this King Edward the 4th. had of the said William three thousand marcs for making his peace." And in p. 224, he names "ships belonging to Bristol in the year of Christ, 1480:"

"The Mary Grace 300 tons, le — of 360 tons, the George 200 tons, Kateryn 180 tons, Mary Bryd 100 tons, Christofer 90 tons, Mary Shernman 54 tons, Leonard 50 tons, the Mary of Bristow, — le George, — the John 511 tons, a ship that is just fitted for sea, John Godeman hath of ships, — Thomas Straunge about 12."

Let not the merchants of our days ridicule and despise the shipping of their ancestors, which is too common, as we can produce so respectable a list belonging then to a few. Among these ships of Canynges was one of 900 tons, another of 500, &c, although these great ships had English names, it has been not unjustly doubted, whether we had any at that time of our own building in England so large; but as Anderson well observes, Canynges might have either purchased them or taken them from the Hanseaticks with whom he traded, or from the Venetians, Genoese, Lucchese, Pisans, all of whom had ships of even larger burden at that time,

How

How intent they were in Bristol upon promoting navigation, appears from the letters patent of King Henry 7th. A. R. 13, * 1495, granted to John Cabot, a Venetian or Genoese, then residing as a merchant in Bristol, and to his three sons, Lewis, Sebastian † and Sanctius, for the discovery of new and unknown lands.

The following are the letters patent, "Henricus Dei Gratia" &c. Thus in English — Henry by the grace of God &c. Be it known to all, that we have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant to our well beloved John Cabot citizen of Venice, to Lewis Sebastian and Sanctius, sons of the said John and to their heirs and deputies full and free authority, leave and power to sail to all parts countries and seas of the east, of the west and of the north under our banners and ensigns, with five ships of what burthen or quality soever they be, and as many mariners and men as they will take with them in the said ships, upon their own proper costs and charges, to seek out discover and find whatsoever isles, countries, regions or provinces of the Heathen and Infidels whatsoever they be and in what part soever of the world, which before this time have been unknown to all Christians: we have granted to them and every of them and their deputies, and have given them our licence to set up our banners and ensigns in every village, town, castle, isle, or main-land of them newly found; and that the said John and his sons and their heirs may subdue occupy and possess all such towns, cities, &c. by them found which they can subdue occupy and possess as our vassals and lieutenants, getting to us the rule title and jurisdiction of the same villages, towns, &c. yet so that the said John and his sons and their heirs of all the fruits, profits and commodities growing from such navigation, shall be held and bound to pay to us in wares or money the fifth part of the capital gain so gotten for every their voyage as OFTEN AS THEY SHALL ARRIVE AT OUR PORT OF BRISTOL, (AT WHICH PORT THEY SHALL BE OBLIGED ONLY TO ARRIVE,) deducting all manner of necessary costs and charges by them made: we giving and granting unto them and their heirs and deputies, that they shall be free from all payment of customs on all such merchandise they shall bring with them from the places so newly found. And moreover we have given and granted to them and their heirs and deputies, that all the firm land, islands, villages, towns, &c. they shall chance to find, may not with-

X 2

out

* Hacluit's Voyages, vol 3, p. 5, 6.

† Parmenius Budæius has given Cabot the following verses on his discovery of North America:

Hanc tibi jampridem primi invenere Britanni;
Tum cum magnanimus nostra in regione Cabotus
Proximus a magno ostendat sua Vela Columbo.

out licence of the said John Cabot and his sons be frequented and visited, under pain of losing their ships and all the goods of them, who shall presume to sail to the places so found: willing and commanding strictly all and singular our subjects as well on land as on sea, to give good assistance to the said John and his sons and deputies, and that as well in arming and furnishing their ships and vessels, as in provision of food and buying victuals for their money, and all other things by them to be provided necessary for the said navigation they do give them all their favours and assistance. Witness myself at Westminster, 5th March in 11th year of our reign."

In the thirteenth year of the same reign there is a record of the rolls concerning the voyage of John Cabot and his sons, — thus, "Rex tertio die Feb. anno 13 regni, licentiam dedit &c." The King on the 3d day of Feb. in the 13th year of his reign gave licence to John Cabot to take six ships of England in any haven or havens of the realm, of England of the burden of 200 tons or under with all necessary furniture, and also to take into the said ships all such masters, mariners and subjects of the King as will willingly go with him * &c

In consequence of this the voyage was undertaken, and in the year 1497 John Cabot and his son Sebastian (with the English fleet set out from Bristol) discovered the 24th June, 5 ante merid. that land, which none had before. This land he called primo vista or first seen, because it was that of which they had a first sight from sea; that land which lieth out before the island, he called St. John's upon this occasion, because discovered on St. John's day.

In the year 1497, 24th June on St. John's day, as it is in a manuscript in my possession, "was Newfoundland found by Bristol men in a ship called the Matthew." Sebastian Cabot discovered in his first voyage Newfoundland, the island of St. John and the continent of America, which he sailed by in his return home quite to Florida, where his provisions failing, he then returned to England from thence; and finding great tumults among the people and preparation for wars with Scotland, there was then no more consideration had of this voyage: whereupon he went to Spain, where the King and Queen being advertised of what he had done, entertained him at their charges, and furnished out ships for the discovery of the coast of Brasil and the river of Plate, which he effected and was after constituted pilot major to Spain; and thus England lost the opportunity of farther discoveries by this great genius in the art of navigation and cosmography. In the 14th year of Henry 7th. Fabian says "were brought home and presented to the King three men taken in Newfoundland, cloathed in beasts skins, eating raw flesh; they spake such
speech.

* There is a good account of this voyage in Lord Verulam's Life of Henry 7th. to which I refer.

speech as no man could understand, and in their demeanour were like to bruit beasts, whom the King kept a time after; afterwards I saw two apparelled like Englishmen at Westminster pallace."

In Fabian's Chronicle,* and in Stowe continued by E. Howes, the voyage is related nearly alike; in the latter thus: "This year (1498) one Sebastian Cabota, a Genoese's son, (others say a Venetian,) born at Bristow, professing himself to be expert in knowledge of the circuit of the world and islands thereof, as by his charts and other reasonable demonstrations he shewed, caused the King to man and victual a ship at Bristow, to search for an island which he knew to be replenished with rich commodities: in the ship divers merchants of London adventured small stocks, and in companie with this ship, sayled also out of Bristow three or foure small shippes fraughte with slight and other grosse wares, as coarfe cloth, caps, laces, points, and such other."

Sir H. Gilbert, in his book intituled, A Discovery of a New Passage to Cataia, writeth thus: "Sebastian Cabota, by his personal experience and travell, hath set forth and described this passage in his charts, which are yet to be seen in the Queen's Majesties privy gallory at Whitehall, who was sent to make this discoverie by King Hen. 7. and entred the fret, affirmed that he sailed very far westward, with a quarter of North, on the North side of Terra Labrador, the 11 June, until he came to the Septentrional, latitude of $67\frac{3}{4}$ degrees, and finding the seas still open, said, that he might and would have gone to Cataia, if the enmity of the master and mariners had not been." — However he might have been mistaken in that, it shews what a genius he had for naval adventures. — Peter Martyr of Angleria, in his third Decade, † chap. 6. thus accurately describes this voyage: "These North seas have been searched by one Sebastian Cabot, a Venetian born, whomme yet but in manner an ‡ infant, his parents carried with them into England, having occasion to resort thither for trade, as is the manner of the Venetians to leave noe parte of the worlde unsearched to obtayne rycheffe; he therefore furnished two shippes in England at his own charges: and first with three hundred menne directed his course so farre towarde the North pole, that even at the monthe of July he founde monstrous heapes of ise swimming on the sea, and in manner continual day light: yet sawe he the lande in that tracte free from ise, moulten by the heat of

* Thomas Languet in Chron. says, "Sebastian Cabot, son of a Genoese, born in Bristowe professing knowledge in the circuit of the earth, was sente from Bristowe to discover straunge countryes, and he fyrste founde out Newfoundlande in 1498.

† Translated out of Spanish by Lok, Gent. 1612.

‡ So young that it gave room to say he was born in Bristol, the place in England they settled at, — nor is it clear he was not born there: but a Bristol man he was, being bred up there from infancy confessedly.

of the funne. Thus meeting such heapes of ice before him, he was enforced to turn his sayles and follow the West, so coastinge styll by the shore, that he was thereby brought so far into the Southe by reason of the lande bending so much southwarde, that it was there almost equal in latitude with the sea called "Fretum Herculeum," having the North pole elevate in manner in the same degree. He sayld likewise in this track so farre towards the West that he had the island of Cuba on his left hande, in manner in the same degree of longitude. As he travayled by the coasts of this great land, (which he named Baccalaos,) he sayth that hee founde the like course of waters towards the West, but the same to run more softly and gently, than the swift waters which the Spanyards founde in their navigations southwards. Sebastian Cabot himself called these landes Baccalaos, from certaine bygge fishes called by the inhabitants Baccalaos, so many that they sometimes staid their shippes. He founde also the people of these regions covered with beast skins, yet not without the use of reason. He also sayth, there are plenty of beares, which catch fysh with their clawes and draw them to land and eate them: he declareth also that he saw greate plenty of laton (a kind of metal) among the inhabitants. Cabot is my friend, (adds Peter Martyr,) whom I use familiarly and delight to have him sometimes keep me company in my own house; for hee being called out of England * by the commandment of the Catholike King of Castile, after the death of King Henry of England the 7th of that name, he was made one of our counsayle and assistants touchynge the affayres of the newe Indies, lookyng daylie for shyppes to be fitted out by him to discover this hidde secret of nature. This voyage is appoynted to be begunne in March in the yeere next following, beeing the yeere of Christe 1516."

This is a most curious account indeed of our townsman Cabot's voyage, and being given by his friend and intimate associate who might have it from Cabot's own mouth, it is most likely to be true and genuine. In his seventh Decade, printed a few years possibly afterwards, P. Martyr again mentions "the Baccalaos, as being first discovered 26 years since from England by Cabotus." There are in Mr. Hackluit, to whom I refer, several other testimonies of Sebastian Cabot's discoveries of Newfoundland and North America, to which the merchants of Bristol, who formerly according to Georg. Brunius, before quoted, used to go once a year to Newfoundland a fishing, now drive so considerable a trade.

In the second year of Edward 6. 1549, the King granted to Sebastian Cabot a certain annuity or yearly revenue of 166l. 13s. 4d. sterling, to receive and enjoy

* i. e. From Bristol where he dwelt, and was bred up — he is called in manuscript *penes me*, "a Geneose's son, born in Bristow."

enjoy the same to the said Sebastian Cabot during his natural life, out of the treasury of the Exchequer at Westminster, at the hand of his treasurers and paymasters there without account or fee, constituting him grand pilot of England.

In the life of Columbus by his son, cap. 4. it is related, that a memorandum of his father contains the following particular, which shows into how far distant and supposed uninhabitable countries the merchants of Bristol had penetrated: "In February 1467, I sailed myself an hundred leagues beyond Thule, Iceland, whose northern point is 73 degrees distant from the equinoctial, and not 63 as some will have it, nor does it lie upon the line where Ptolomy's West begins, but much more to the westward; and to this island, which is as big as England, the English trade, especially from Bristol. (Churchill's Voyages, vol. 2. p. 485. 3d edit.)

In William Botoner, p. 267, there is an account of an early voyage made by Bristol men "in two ships of 80 tons, of Jay, junr. a merchant, who began their voyage 15 July 1480, at the port of Bristol in Kynghood, for the island of Braffley, taking their course from the West part of Ireland, plowing the seas through, and Thlyde is master of the ship, the most skilful mariner of all England; — news came to Bristol Monday 18th Sept. that the said ships sailed over the seas for nine months, and found not the island, but through tempests at sea returned to port in Ireland, for laying up their ships and mariners."

In the little red book, p. 158. is recorded a Latin charter of Hen. 4. exempting the mayor and commonalty from the power and jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, not published in the Bristol charters, only the confirmation of it by Edw. 4. — Henry's charter says, "that considering the many and notable services which very many merchants, burgeses of our town of Bristol, have done for us and our famous progenitors in many ways with their ships and voyages at their own great charges and expence; as also for the grateful sense which we have lately found in the mayor and commonalty of the said town in freely giving us 200l. in our necessities for the more readily expediting certain arduous affairs of our kingdom: and also since many of the said burgeses and merchants have been grievously vexed and disturbed by the lieutenants and ministers of our Admiralty of England, to their great loss and burden: we therefore of our special grace, mere motion and certain knowledge, have granted for us and our heirs to the mayor and commonalty and their heirs, that the said town, &c. shall for ever be free from the jurisdiction, &c. of the said Admiralty, &c."

This charter afforded great relief to the merchants, captains, and citizens.

In

In 1527, Robert Thorn of Bristol informed Dr. Ley, ambassador from Henry 8th to the Emperor Charles, that "He and his partner in a floote of ships fitted out and armed by the merchants of Seville had ventured and employed 1400 ducats principally, for that two Englishmen, friends of his, learned in cosmography should go in the said ships with Sebastian Cabot, then intended for the Moluccas by the Streights of Magellan in April 1527, but the voyage was performed only to the river of Plate. They were to bring him certain relation of the situation of the country, and to get experience of the navigation of those seas, and information of many other things that he desired to know and any charts by which those of the country sail, &c. for if from the islands of Moluccas the sea doth extend without interposition of land to sail from north to north east point 1700 or 1800 leagues, they should come to the Newfoundland islands that the English discovered, and so we should be nearer to the spiceries by almost 200 leagues than the Emperor or the King of Portugal are."

In the year 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert performed a voyage for the colonization of America, an account of which was written by one Haies, gent. in Hackluit, 3d vol. p. 144. — in which he says "the first discovery of these coasts never heard of before was well begun by John Cabot the father and Sabastian his sonne an Englishman borne, who were the first finders out of all that great tract of land stretching from cape Florida unto those islands which we now call Newfoundland: all which they brought and annexed to the Crown of England, soon after Christopher Columbus had discovered the islands and continent of the West Indies for Spain. In the year 1578, Mr. Antony Parkhurst gentleman of Bristol, who had been four years at Newfoundland and had accurately searched the island, sent Mr. Hackluit a letter dated from Bristow, in which he describes the great increase of the fishery or the number of vessels resorting thither, and a natural history of the island. Sir Francis Walsingham 11th March 1582, wrote to Mr. Robert Aldworth, then mayor and a merchant of Bristol, commending his good inclination to the western discovery, and recommending to add the two ships or barks he was then fitting out to the fleet of Sir Humphry Gilbert, to which the said Mr. Aldworth replied, that the western voyage intended for the discovery of the coast of America to the south west of Cape Breton was well liked there, that the merchants of Bristol subscribed 1000 marks immediately to it, and that they would furnish a ship of 60 and a bark of 40 tons. dated 27th March 1583. In 1594, the Grace of Bristol the 4th April sailed from Bristol into the great river of St. Laurence for the fins of wales and train oil, as far up
as

as the island Nantiscot, and returned to Hungroad 24th September the same year. In the Collections of Public Acts it appears, that a patent was granted in 1502 by King Henry 7th. 9th December, to "James (or Hugh) Elliot and Thomas Ashurst merchants of Bristol, and to John Gonfalez and Francis Fernandez, natives of Portugal, to go with English colours in quest of unknown countries upon certain terms expressed in the grant," whether it was in any voyage in company with Cabot or another, I cannot determine. — For I find Robert Thorn afore-mentioned of Bristol, who was sheriff there in 1503, May 1 1514 to Dr. Leigh writes thus; "this inclination and desire of this discovery I inherited from my father, who with another merchant of Bristol, named Hugh Elliot, were the discoverers of the Newfoundland, of which there is no doubt, (as now plainly appeareth) if the mariners would have been ruled then, and followed the * pilot's mind, but the lands of the West Indies, from whence all the gold cometh, had been ours; for all is one coast as by the chart appeareth."

One Thorn (the afore-mentioned Robert) a merchant of Bristol is said by Mr. Guthrie † to have "presented a memorial for leave to find out the north-west passage, setting forth the vast advantages which the Emperor and the King of Portugal drew from their American settlements. But though Thorn obtained his request, no discovery of any importance then followed." Nicholas Thorn in his will left all his geographical and nautical instruments to the Grammar school of Bristol founded by his father Robert.

Many voyages were made afterwards from Bristol with the like public spirited views of enriching their country as well as themselves, though not with equal success. One ‡ Mr. Guy in 1609, took out a number of persons of both sexes, designing to form a settlement all the winter in Newfoundland: he was a member of the common council of Bristol, and mayor in 1618. "He procured a charter and licence of the King (James) for his intended plantation, having some rich merchants of London as well as Bristol joined with him for the better and more effectual prosecuting of the scheme. Many of this city did advance money towards it: and so Mr. Guy with some other young merchants being fitted out with more men and all necessaries took shipping here for Newfoundland to make a trial of the place, by staying there all the winter." §

Y

In

* Sebastian Cabot's I suppose.

† History of England, v. 2, p. 1052, vid. Annals for the year 1502.

‡ In a manuscript penes me.

§ John de Laet takes notice of this voyage from Bristol: anno 1608, Angli Johanne Guyo Bristolienfi ductore statas sedes in hac insula fecerunt ad finem conceptionis, &c.

In Stowe's Chronicle continued by E. Howes p. 943 you have a very particular relation of this voyage, "after the patent was obtained, and several noblemen gentlemen and citizens being thereby made a body corporate by the name of the treasurer and company of adventures and planters of the cities of London and Bristol for the colony and plantation of Newfoundland in the southern and eastern parts lying between the degrees 52 and 46, the company sent ships with men, women and all necessaries thither, and ordained maister John Guy a citizen of Bristol a man very industrious and of good experience to be their General in this plantation, who planted a colony of men and women in the island of Newfoundland, (which was first discovered by Sebastian Cabot and ever since yearly frequented by the English in fishing time;) with them also they for their use to increase there, transported hennies, duckes, pigeons, conies, goats, kine and other live creatures, all which did very well there; this General Guy, stayed there with the colony both winter and summer, whose natures and conditions in general agreed very well with the soil and climate. In this plantation there were sent none but men of civil life, and of some honest trade or profession, by which course they lived and prospered the better: since the date of their charter, 8th James 1. 2d May 1610, they have sent yearly supplies thither unto the year 1614, master John Slaney Esq; being their first treasurer."

In an old ledger book in the custody of Mr. Hackluit (v. 3, p. 500 of his voyages) written about 1526 by Mr. N. Thorn the elder a principal merchant of Bristol, it was noted, that before that year one T. Tison an Englishman had "found the way to the West Indies and resided there, and to him the said Mr. N. Thorn then a merchant in Bristol sent armour and other merchandize there specified, whereby it appears, that there was an established trade there very early and from the city of Bristol. In the 1st Elizabeth, when all merchandize was ordered to be shipped in none but English ships, an excellent policy of that wise Queen, a clause was added in favour of the merchants of Bristol, who had sustained "great losses at sea from enemies, who had taken all their best ships and much substance so as not to be able to provide ships of their own &c." — If there were no English ships within forty miles of Bristol, they were allowed to lade their merchandize in foreign ships without being liable to aliens duties."

And from Hackluit (2. vol. p. 3.) it appears that certain merchants of Bristol did not only now (1526) but for a long time before trade by the ships of St. Lucar in Spain to the Canaries, sending cloth, soap &c. and returning with

with dye stuff and drugs, sugar, kidskins, and that they also sent thither factors from Spain.

Bristol was equally industrious in establishing manufactories especially of soap in 1523, supplying London with the best grey speckled soap and with white at 1d. per pound. In 1581 it had a chief manufactory of points or pins, and it was a principal mystery exercised in the town, as were the making of bays and silk hose; and the sail cloth and glass manufacture, and that of hats, cotton and thread hose, &c. is still carried on with great industry.

It appears by the great Red Book of Bristol p. 30, that the mayor, bailliffs and commonalty had a free guild of merchants in the town and suburb, from time beyond the memory of man, and all things belonging to a guild, viz: to buy and sell in the said town freely and quietly from all toll and customs, and had other liberties belonging to them, and for the whole time used to take a certain fine or (præstacionem) to their own use from all who were admitted into the liberties and society of the said guild, to have the liberty aforesaid according to what could be agreed reasonably between them; — the guild was confirmed in their liberties by John Earl of Moreton afterwards King John and by William Earl of Gloucester.

In 7th year of Edward 4, William Canynges being mayor the following ordinances were made for merchants, according to the custom from time immemorial.

1. The maior and council fifteen days after Michaelmas were to call a council and to choose from them a person, that hath been maior or sheriff, to be master of the fellowship of merchants and to choose two merchants for wardens, and two beedles to occupy as beedles and brokers to be attendant the said year upon the said masters and wardens &c.

2. The master and fellowship to have at their will the chapel and the draught chamber at Spicers hall to assemble in, paying 20s. per ann.

3. All merchants to attend (if in town) upon summons, or to pay one pound of wax to the master and fellowship.

4. All rules for selling to strangers of any of the four merchandises to be kept on pain of 20s. for every default one half to the fellowship, the other to the chamber.

5. Nor upon pain aforesaid to sell to any stranger under the ruled price.

6. If any merchant be in distress he must apply to the wardens or beedles declaring the same, and if they provide not a remedy within three days, then the merchant burgeses to sell any of his four merchandises at his pleasure.

Besides the guilds or fraternities for the regulation of trade, there were also religious guilds; one was instituted here 24 Hen. 6. that for the soul's health and good of the King, the mayor and commonalty, and for the prosperity of the mariners who were exposed to manifold dangers and distresses, there should be a fraternity erected to the worship of God, our Lady, St. Clement, St. George, and all the saints of heaven, to be founded in such place in Bristol which the mayor should direct, for a priest and twelve poor mariners to pray daily, as above; to the support of which the master of every ship, barge, &c. after his voyage performed, at his arrival in the port should pay 4d. per ton of goods imported, in two days, to two wardens chosen for the craft of mariners and admitted by the mayor, and all sworn by the articles and orders of the fraternity, on pain of 6s. 8d. if a master, if seaman 3s. 4d. if servant 1s. 8d.

1. One half to the mayor, and the other to the fraternity towards the support of the priest and poor: the like penalty to seamen or servants who refuse or omit paying the 4d. per ton, and the master to forfeit 40s. for the same default.

2. Every master and mariner to attend at the procession of Corpus Christi day, with the rest of his craft, upon the like penalties above.

3. Any mariner convicted of having stolen goods on shipboard, or bringing such into his ship, the mate that receives such mariner shall forfeit 20s.

4. Every master and mariner was in his harness to attend the mayor during the watches of St. John's feast, St. Peter's and St. Paul's on like penalties.

5. None to be chosen into the number of the twelve poor men of the fraternity unless he has performed his duties for seven years, to be chosen by vote; and if he has been a master seven years to receive 12d. per week, otherwise 8d. per week for his finding.

6. A warden omitting to pay the said allowance six weeks to any poor person to forfeit 20s. half to the profit of the town, half to the fraternity.

7. Every Bristol mariner arriving in any other port after the voyage made, though not in a ship of this port, to pay at his coming to the city the same as if he had sailed in a Bristol ship.

There is now an almshouse near the Merchants'-Hall, that has succeeded to this fraternity; and there was formerly a chapel there adjoining, dedicated to St. Clement. — And there has lately been instituted a society called the Captain's or Seaman's Club, by which the widows of captains sailing a certain time out of Bristol have a provision of 8 or 10l. or more, per ann. for their widowhood.

A Society of Merchant-Venturers was incorporated within this city by King Edw. 6. by letters patent 14th December 6th year of his reign; and afterwards confirmed by Queen Elizabeth, and King Charles 1st. They are seized and possessed of manors* and lands to the amount of upwards of 3000l. per annum, in trust for the maintenance and support of certain almshouses in this city, and for other charitable uses. — They have a comon hall to meet and transact their business in, and an almshouse for decayed seamen adjoining: their charter gives them several privileges, powers, and immunities; and private persons becoming members of this honourable society, enjoy some particular advantages in fitting out their ships with respect to wharfage, which those pay who are not free of the Merchants'-Hall.

By an act of council the 13th Cha. 2d. 1661, it was ordered, in consideration the society and fellowship of merchants will be at the costs of enlarging and making new a key, from the lower slip of the Key to a certain place in the Marsh called Aldworth's Dock or Key: and also make the way passable by Rownham convenient for coaches or horses to the Hot-wells, there shall be the sum of 100l. issued out of the chamber towards the advancement and doing of the said public works: and also upon surrender made by the said society of a lease they have now in being of the duties of anchorage and plankage and kannage, a new lease should be granted to them by the mayor and commonalty, of the said duties, for the term of fourscore years, under the old rent and covenants, provided a covenant binding all parties be inserted, that after the new Key be made and enlarged no building shall be erected on the same.

Book of Orders, p. 72.

This lease has been renewed not long since, about the year 1780.

The

* Part of the manor of Clifton belongs to them, the Hot-well spring and pump-room, and other buildings there, lately much improved; also St. Vincent's Rock above it, where stone is continually digged for making the best lime, great quantities of which are exported to the sugar islands for making sugar. — Besides the plants, &c. mentioned before p. 92, there is lately gathered here a plant called Wild or Mountain Sage, in great quantities, and sent to very distant parts as a remedy for old rheumatisms and fixed pains, and debility thence arising; it is boiled, and half a pint given at a time in these complaints and after gouty fits, and they say to great advantage. — From the high part of St. Vincent's Rock, where they dig the lime stones, to the opposite side, a bridge was once proposed to be thrown by Wm. Vick, Esq; an eminent wine-merchant of Bristol, who left a thousand pounds and interest to accumulate for a certain number of years, if any one within that time should leave any additional sum for the same purpose. Unfortunately no one has left any thing since towards this grand scheme, and the money is now forfeited to his executors.

The following are the arms of the Society of Merchant-Venturers of the city of Bristol, incorporated the 14th December the 6th of Edw. 6. granted by Took Clarenceiux.

Barry ondè of 6 pieces arg. and azure, on a bend or. a dragon volant vert. on a chief G. a lion passant or. between 2 bezants—upon the beaufmen on a wreath or. and az. the top of a ship or. in the same a man in mail proper, in his right hand a targe, in his left a dart or. supported with two supporters, first a mermaid, the upper part charnè, her hair and fins with an anchor in her hand or. the nether part in proper colours; the second supporter is the figure of Time, the upper part charnè, his wings and nether part or. in his left hand a scythe, the shaft fables, scythe arg. mantled gules, doubled arg.



The arms with the supporters may be seen engraved in the print of the Merchants'-Hall, see chap. on St. Stephen's parish.

So intent have the natives of Bristol ever been on merchandise and navigation, that they frequently have not only ventured their lives and fortunes in search of new countries, and opening new sources of commerce, but their industry has also been crowned with such success as to enable them to assist the government in time of public danger with money and ships, as they did Henry 8. against the French King, and Q. Elizabeth against the Spanish armada. Their knowledge of trade and commercial affairs has been equal to their industry, and they have been sent for in times past to Westminster by the government to advise concerning trade, particularly by Hen. 6. a. r. 36. And Mr. J. Guy, the merchant and alderman before-mentioned, was sent for to London to consult about the decay of trade and coin in 1622.

Bristol being the largest and most convenient western port for trade, and having the benefit of water carriage by the fine river Severn for bringing down the heavy goods and manufactures of the North of England hither for exportation, enjoys very great advantages over many other ports.—This noble river, which our ancestors the Britons called Havren, the Romans Sabrina, and

and the English Sevrn, rises out of a high mountain in Montgomeryshire, called Plinlimmon or Plynlymon; from hence running South East it receives two small rivulets, and then turning direct North passes through Llanidios, where receiving the waters of five other streams and running North East to Newtown, it continues its course more to the northward, till it enters Shropshire, and being joined by several brooks by the way, at last reaches Welchpool; having in the space of twenty miles become from a slender silver stream a very deep and copious river, and is navigable from thence to its mouth. From Welchpool the Severn runs North, and then turning East after washing the splendid and populous town of Shrewsbury, (superior to some cities,) runs South East to Bridgenorth; and from thence declining still more to the South enters Worcestershire and proceeds to Bewdley. The Severn, swelled with concurring streams, traverses entirely that country, and having watered amongst other places Worcester and Upton, it passes forward into Gloucestershire and rolls on to Tewkesbury, from whence having visited Gloucester, and meeting still with fresh accession of waters, grows to such a size as to be stiled the Severn Sea, pouring its tide, after a progress of more than a hundred and thirty miles, into the Bristol Channel.*

The Severn flowing up the river Avon to Bristol, formerly not only great and serviceable ships of burden belonging to merchants, but also to his Majesty had of old time continual recourse hither, say the manuscripts; and several King's ships of war have been built in the docks here.†

As the distinguished privileges and conveniences Bristol has by its situation and free intercourse with Wales and the North of England by the Severn, became more generally known and experienced, so has its trade, shipping and credit increased; and as its merchants have met with success, the industrious naturally resort hither to make a fortune, and the rich to improve one. By trade and navigation many places in every kingdom have rose out of obscurity, and became eminent examples of its extensive utility to a state, and happy influence on a nation; and by its decay places, which once made an illustrious figure in a kingdom, have from superb cities dwindled down into mean towns and villages and sunk into obscurity. With great truth and honour may it be

* See William of Malmesbury de Gestis Pontific. lib. 4. of the Hygre or Bore, or swelling of the tide suddenly.—Also Camden's Gloucestershire.

† Ships of war built here for government, the Illip of 30 guns, in 1655. The St. Patrick of 52 guns, in 1660. The Edgar of 72 guns, 432 men, 1046 tons, in 1668. The Oxford of 54 guns, 274 men, 683 tons, in 1674. The Northumberland of 70 guns, 446 men, 1096 tons, in 1679. The Gloucester of 60 guns, 316 men, 896 tons. The Medea of 32 guns, in 1778. The Trusty of 50 guns, and lately many more.

be said, that by merchandise such opulent fortunes have been acquired here as to enable many of our predecessors to build churches, and endow hospitals and almshouses, and leave such noble and princely benefactions for the public use behind them, as are not to be equalled in the kingdom by any city, where private merchants and tradesmen were the donors, as will hereafter be made appear: so that it may be truly said, they got their wealth by industry, managed it with prudence, and above all did not forget to dispose of much of it to public charities.

The trade of this city is esteemed the most considerable of any port in the kingdom, London excepted, especially to the West Indies and North America, to the latter its merchants have the honour of being the first adventurers, and are said to employ about 70 large ships in the trade to the West Indies alone. The Guinea trade has been also very flourishing, and employs a great number of their shipping; though in this Liverpool may probably exceed them. Before the civil war they had a great foreign trade, especially to the West Indies, but since the revolution the trade to North America and Newfoundland, to Guinea, the Mediterranean, to Norway, Hamburgh, and up the Baltic has been greatly improved and extended. They trade here also with less dependence on the Capital than any of the outports. Whatever exportations they make to any part, they can dispose of the full returns, without shipping of any part for London in ships bound thither, or consigning their own vessels to London to dispose of their cargoes. They have buyers at home for their largest cargoes; whence the shopkeepers in Bristol drive a great inland trade, being wholesale dealers throughout the western counties, which employs a great many carriers and waggoners passing and repassing from Bristol to the principal towns. Add to this the navigation of the two great rivers Severn and Wye, whereby they engross in a manner to themselves the whole trade of South Wales, and great part of North Wales, as well as of the English counties bordering on those rivers; and they have all the heavy goods by water from Birmingham and the North of England by trows, a very singular advantage to the foreign or home trade of the place, not less than 100 trows being employed in bringing goods to and from Bristol on the Severn. The trade to Ireland is also very great, a number of ships being constantly employed in it.

The great demand for glass bottles for the Bristol and the Bath waters, for the exportation of beer, cider, and perry, &c. occasion many glass-houses being erected here to supply it: besides there is a great export of plate or window

window glass, vials, and drinking glasses; brass and copper pans, and brass wire from the manufactory here.

The distillery is also become a very capital branch of trade, many great works being erected at amazing expence in different parts of the city; and though nothing is so prejudicial to the health of man as drinking spirituous liquors in any form, so totally destructive of human generation and being, so subversive of our very existence, causing slow but sure death, yet the quantity of rum imported from abroad, of gin and brandy made at home, indicates and proves what a great consumption of these liquors there is now in comparison of what was a few years ago; when there were but few distil houses and but little rum imported or brandy made here. The mischief indeed is not confined to ourselves; it spreads far and wide; for the great export of spirits to Quebeck and North America, to Africa and other countries it is, that promotes the distillery here, as well as their too general and fatal use at home; whilst the great consumption of barley and wheat, whence they extract this baneful liquor, leaves us often to lament the scarcity of grain for our necessary uses, for our wholesom food and daily support. Such quantities of spirits are made here from grain (the growth of the adjoining corn-counties, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Wales, from which last they have it by water,) that they send vessels loaded with spirits to London, and even supply that city, where yet such large distilleries are carried on to such a degree and extent as exceeds all belief. But all, all is consumed, to the shortning of the period of human life (alas! too short!) and the absolute extinction of our very being, by drying up and hardning the fine vessels and nerves, rendering them impervious, producing paralytic strokes, hemiplegies, and apoplexies, never before so frequent as of late years, since the frequent and so general use of spirituous liquors, in punch, toddy or alone unmixed.

The present trade of this city to foreign parts is very great; to Florida, Carolina, Maryland, New-York, Philadelphia, Newfoundland and Quebec, ships are employed to export our manufactured goods through the vast continent of North America, and return with tobacco, rice, tar, deer skins, timber, furs, indigo, logwood, &c. and from the West India Islands with sugar, rum, pimento, mahogany, &c. the produce of the several countries, the trade thither having increased in proportion as the colonists have extended their settlements: it reflects no small degree of honour on the city of Bristol that Newfoundland and North America to which they now and ever since have had so great a trade, were first discovered by a Bristol man, and the first

voyage made thither was by ships manned victualled and fitted out here by Bristol merchants. It is yet to be proved whither the trade to America will increase or decline, since some of the colonies grown rich and feeling their own importance, have now set up for themselves and thrown off their allegiance and dependence they owed the mother country by a separation in the year 1783. The trade to Africa for slaves, (a trade now much complained of and about to be regulated by law) ivory, gold dust, &c. has been cultivated here with great spirit and success; the industrious tradesmen also frequently send their goods abroad to great advantage at their own risque; and they freight ships here for any voyage with the greatest dispatch. They employ also ships in the Streights trade, and up the Baltic for deals, &c. and not long since sent them to Greenland in the whale fishery, which proving more uncertain and not so advantageous is dropped entirely for the present. In war time they have fitted out fleets of privateers to the great annoyance of the enemy's trade and assistance to government.

The whole trade of this city may best be estimated by the duties paid on exports and imports annually and the number of ships entered out. By some manuscript papers before me it appears that in 1634 the port of Bristol paid for customs and imposts more than 10,000*l.* and the following years upwards of 25,000*l.* and they have every year since most rapidly increased.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the amount of the customs upon an average of several years was in the port of London 111,000*l.* and in all the other ports of the kingdom 17,000*l.* of which Bristol paid 5000*l.* whereas in the year 1770 and for years past the customs of the port of Bristol alone have amounted to upwards of 200,000*l.* per ann. clear of all bounties paid on exports, officers salaries, &c. the excise pays also 100,000*l.* per ann. But the following account of the gross receipts and neat remittances of the two seaports of Bristol and Liverpool (a dispute having arisen which paid most to government) may be satisfactory to the reader, as it gives the remittances for eight years regularly.

GROSS

GROSS RECEIPTS.

BRISTOL.

1750	-	-	242,283	4	11
1	-	-	228,517	16	1
2	-	-	302,886	5	2
3	-	-	301,483	4	$3\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	297,202	0	$0\frac{3}{4}$
5	-	-	333,778	14	$5\frac{3}{4}$
6	-	-	257,560	1	$9\frac{3}{4}$
7	-	-	351,211	9	$6\frac{3}{4}$

£2,314,922 16 $4\frac{1}{2}$

Medium.

£289,365 7 $0\frac{1}{2}$

LIVERPOOL.

1750	-	-	215,463	8	4
1	-	-	163,597	17	$10\frac{3}{4}$
2	-	-	200,409	14	$6\frac{3}{4}$
3	-	-	210,218	16	$6\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	258,456	8	$1\frac{1}{4}$
5	-	-	202,367	6	1
6	-	-	165,438	4	$3\frac{3}{4}$
7	-	-	198,946	17	3

£1,614,898 13 1

Medium.

£201,862 6 $7\frac{1}{2}$

NEAT REMITTANCES.

1750	-	-	128,580	17	$10\frac{1}{4}$
1	-	-	140,731	0	$6\frac{3}{4}$
2	-	-	158,765	10	$4\frac{1}{2}$
3	-	-	170,361	13	$1\frac{1}{4}$
4	-	-	156,717	9	$1\frac{3}{4}$
5	-	-	177,894	15	$4\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	156,951	5	5
7	-	-	151,516	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$

£1,241,518 12 $11\frac{1}{4}$

Medium.

£155,189 16 $7\frac{1}{4}$

1750	-	-	58,907	5	$3\frac{1}{2}$
1	-	-	40,648	3	0
2	-	-	44,387	8	$0\frac{1}{2}$
3	-	-	45,479	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	59,766	6	$0\frac{3}{4}$
5	-	-	49,661	0	$8\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	49,976	11	$1\frac{1}{2}$
7	-	-	60,263	15	$10\frac{1}{2}$

£409,089 11 $2\frac{3}{4}$

Medium.

£51,136 3 $10\frac{3}{4}$

The neat remittance for the year 1764 from Bristol was 195,000l. and from Liverpool but 70,000l. and 2353 vessels entered inward at the Custom-house Bristol the same year.

To shew the great increase of the trade of this city as well as of the number of its shipping the account of the anchorage, wharfage and moorage, paid to the society of merchants for a certain number of years, is an indubitable proof and of this the following is a true and exact amount for the space of thirty two years.

N. B. Every vessel above sixty tons pays wharfage.

				l.	s.	d.
In 1745	-	-	-	918	18	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	-	879	19	6
7	-	-	-	921	13	9
8	-	-	-	1064	1	5
9	-	-	-	1080	7	2
1750	-	-	-	1247	6	0
1	-	-	-	1253	1	6
2	-	-	-	1225	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	-	-	-	1271	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	-	1212	1	11
5	-	-	-	1209	16	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	-	-	-	1208	9	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
7	-	-	-	1387	1	5
8	-	-	-	1308	5	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
9	-	-	-	1591	14	6
1760	-	-	-	1379	1	5
1	-	-	-	1289	0	6
2	-	-	-	1253	17	8
3	-	-	-	1351	13	6
4	-	-	-	1286	8	1
5	-	-	-	1483	7	2
6	-	-	-	1481	6	6
7	-	-	-	1547	5	1
8	-	-	-	1657	15	2
9	-	-	-	1593	8	5
1770	-	-	-	1578	18	6
1	-	-	-	1514	7	2
2	-	-	-	1561	0	9
3	-	-	-	1482	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
4	-	-	-	1727	18	6
5	upwards of			2000	0	0

The numbers of ships and vessels arriving here, and entered out of the port of Bristol, must ever be varying in different years; and to calculate this with any justness or propriety, the places to which they are sent should be specified: it has been computed thus, though exactness is not to be expected.

Coasting vessels annually employed chiefly on the coast of Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, and Wales down the Bristol Channel, and on the river Wye and all South Wales, &c. about					1000
In 1788	Ships employed in the trade to Jamaica,	-	-	-	34
	To the Leeward islands	-	-	-	38
	To Africa	-	-	-	37
	To Newfoundland	-	-	-	33
	To North America about	-	-	-	50
	Between Bristol and Ireland, France, Spain, and Lon- don, &c. about	-	-	-	200
					1392

Besides 103 trows from 50 to 130 tons employed in carrying goods upon the Severn to and from Bristol.

In the year 1769 there were entered inward at the Custom-house 417 foreign ships, as appears by the presentments of the year, exclusive of Londoners, coasters, &c.

In the year 1742 the privateers fitted out from Bristol alone exceeded in tonnage number of guns and men, the whole Royal Navy of Great Britain in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; though trade and navigation have flourished and been annually improving here for many years yet it has been ever fluctuating from the time of King Henry 2d. 1139, when William of Malmesbury makes such honourable mention of it to the present time.

The following exact account (which may rectify any errors in the above) of the whole number of ships and their tonnage, including their repeated voyages, that have traded to this port to and from any kingdom in the year 1787, is taken from the Custom-house entries by order of government, when the state of the African slave-trade was the subject of parliamentary enquiry, and petitions were presented for its abolition, and an act was passed for its regulation.

COASTERS.

COASTERS.						INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.			
Inwards.			Outwards.			British.		Foreign.		British.		Foreign.	
Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1861	66,200	5181	1632	62,139	6066								
America	Africa		-	-	-	15	1762	0	0	30	4171	0	0
	British Colonies		-	-	-	17	1477	0	0	36	3745	0	0
	Honduras		-	-	-	0	0	0	0	3	678	0	0
	Musquito Shore		-	-	-	5	843	0	0	0	0	0	0
	United States		-	-	-	11	1662	16	3045	11	1879	14	2454
	West Indies		-	-	-	71	16,209	0	0	73	16,913	0	0
	Alderney		-	-	-	0	0	0	0	1	39	0	0
	British Fishery		-	-	-	0	0	0	0	7	340	0	0
	Flanders		-	-	-	1	80	0	0	0	0	0	0
	France		-	-	-	12	1110	3	135	20	1817	8	152
	Germany		-	-	-	1	20	3	330	0	0	0	0
	Greece		-	-	-	4	537	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Guernsey		-	-	-	4	236	0	0	12	605	0	0
	Holland		-	-	-	9	860	2	190	5	561	4	441
	Jersey		-	-	-	2	116	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ireland		-	-	-	161	9623	0	0	139	9187	0	0
	Isle of Man		-	-	-	2	68	0	0	1	40	0	0
	Italy		-	-	-	17	1709	0	0	4	372	4	690
	Norway		-	-	-	1	189	14	3307	0	0	13	2977
	Poland		-	-	-	2	461	3	960	0	0	3	960
	Portugal		-	-	-	23	2504	1	40	12	1579	2	380
	Prussia		-	-	-	8	2293	1	140	3	613	0	0
	Southern Whale Fishery		-	-	-	2	382	0	0	2	387	0	0
	Spain		-	-	-	37	3633	17	1480	15	1647	18	1691
	Sweden		-	-	-	0	0	9	1485	0	0	0	0
	Russia		-	-	-	11	2351	0	0	8	2156	0	0
						416	48,125	69	11,112	382	46,729	66	10,445

Ships and Vessels belonging to this port, their tonnage and number of men, that have traded to and from foreign parts; also coasting vessels, fishing vessels, smacks, &c. for the year 1787.

Foreign Trade.			Coasters.			Fishing Vessels, &c.		
Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
323	53,491	3971	30	3078	192	7	340	30

OF BRISTOL in PARTICULAR:

Or, of the CITY as divided into

Particular DISTRICTS, PARISHES, &c.

C H A P. VII.

Of the CASTLE.

THE origin, names, civil government, trade, and description of the city in general at different periods being hitherto noticed, its separate and particular history falls next under consideration; and the Castle with its precincts for its great antiquity and renown claims our first regard.

This castle has been the scene of many interesting transactions and historical events; though it is not mentioned in our chronicles expressly before 1088, 1st of Wm. Rufus, when it is called by Roger Hoveden "Castrum fortissimum." If it was so soon after the conquest, "a castle of the greatest strength," so great as to be made the insurgents head quarters, and the common repository of all the plunder of the country, as will appear below; it must have been built long before, and we must look farther back for the æra of its foundation into the Saxon times: for though the Saxon chronicle has not mentioned it, yet it must have been of that time, and if we give credit to Turgot's account, p. 32, "in the year 915 Edward senr. having made alteration of the walls of Bryghtstowe newly ybuylden the castle, beeyng the goodelyeste of fyve ybuylden on Abone bankes, and it was a grete checke to the Danes."

A wall around embattled at the top was the first out-work of defence the city had, and with this it was secured and inclosed on every side, till the castle on the eastern part, where it was then not moted with the river, was afterwards erected for its greater security and protection.

Leland

Leland says, out of a book of the antiquities of the monastery of Tewksbury, which he met with in Latin, "That Robert, (consul of Gloucester,) built the castle of Bristolle;" and in another place, "he buildid the castelle of Bristowe, or the most part of it. Every man sayith that he builded the great square stone dungeon, and that the stones thereof came oute of Cæen in Normandie." J. Ross makes Robert Haymo, in the time of William Rufus, Earl of Gloucester, "a founder of Bristol castle." Mr. Cambden, without quoting the authority of Leland or any one else, roundly says, "Robert, natural son of Henry 1st. (commonly called Robert Rufus, consul of Gloucester,) built a large stone castle for the defence of this city. This castle being scarce yet finished, was in 1138 besieged by King Stephen, but he was forced to draw off his forces without effecting any thing."

Unfortunately for Mr. Cambden, Leland, whom he seems to have copied in ascribing the erection of the castle solely to Robert Earl of Gloucester, nowhere says so, as his own opinion; he seems rather to doubt it by saying himself in another place, "he buildid the moste parte of it. Every manne sayith that he buildid the great stone dungeon;" and where he expressly writeth on Bristow castle, v. 7. p. 84, he only mentions "the great dungeon towre made, as it is sayde, of stone brought out of Normandie by the redde Earl of Glocestre." This surely is far from making him to be the original founder of the castle, as Mr. Cambden has erroneously done: and in page 88 of the same vol. he calls him only "Robertus Consul Lorde of Brightstowe castle, and founder of St. James priorie in the North suburbe of Brightstowe:" here he had the best occasion of calling him the sole and first founder of the castle, but he only makes him Lord or Governor of it, as already built as it really was; for it was certainly held 1088 against Wm. Rufus, 1st W. 2d. by the Bishop of Constance, before Henry 1st. father of Robert Earl of Gloucester was at man's estate; and in T. Wicke's Chron. under the year 1138, p. 27, it is said, "Quod Roberto, &c. i. e. King Henry his father assigned to Robert the Earl, those fortified castles of Bristol and Marlebreg, &c." The truth is, Robert was only a repairer of the castle and rebuilder of some part of it. — One of the Saxon Kings or Earls of Gloucester, most probably according to the manuscript Edward senr. was the first builder, who, according to the Saxon annals anno 911, sent his army out of West Saxony and Mercia, which country the Danes had invaded; he fought and routed them: Ecwills, Halfden and many of the pagan nobility and soldiers were slain, which being a decisive battle, brought the Danes under the power of the Saxon monarch: for though there were many excursions and engagements afterwards, yet King Edward went on
taking

taking cities, building towns and castles; and securing the habitations of the natives, left fortifications in such opportune places, that his conquests were in no danger: but especially it was his care, "that if a town stood on the North side of a river, he would place another on the South side against it, and *vice versa*, that so he might be able every where to put a stop to the incursions of the enemy."

In this he judged very well in building the castle of Bristol on the North side opposite Redcliff; by which means he provided well for the defence of Mercia and West Saxony, separated as it was by the river Avon at this place. By this situation it became a metropolis to those two potent kingdoms, which when united under one Saxon monarch under Egbert the 18th King of the West Saxons, in the year 800, soon induced these succeeding Kings to enlarge the city; and in particular Edward the son of Alfred the Great, to fortify it with a castle on the Mercian side, when before either on this or the West Saxon side, or Redcliff, it was only defended by walls embattled and bulwarks. — The remains of such a kind of fortification are still there to be seen: the embattled wall rebuilt on the old large and thick foundation of the old one being preserved to this day in the same line and situation: the two gates in it Redcliff and Temple were afterwards rebuilt in a modern style; and the ancient tower Elsewyn, afterwards tower Harratzs being destroyed, another building was erected there in its stead.

This castle was pleasantly situated on a rising ground at the East part of the town, which was a great advantage to it as a fortress; it was bounded on the North by the river From, and on the South by the river Avon, having a deep trench, still called Castle-Ditch on the East side, where an arm of the From embracing it discharges itself into the Avon, moating it with water on that side: on the West part it was defended by a deep trench or ditch, from Newgate across the Avon near St. Peter's church, over the middle of which was a draw-bridge leading to the castle-gate from the town, where was what I find called the Barbicana Castri, near the East part of St. Peter's church: it was fortified within with very strong walls embattled at the top, and had a Sally-port, still so called, leading into the present Queen-street, built on an arch, which the river From flows through. Its out-works were very large, extending to Lawford's-Gate, which still retains its ancient Saxon name, *Hlaford's-Gate*,*

A A

or

* Wm. Corbet of Chadfly, held a tenement at Lawford's-Gate for keeping it, 17 Edw. 2d. — Wm. of Worcester, p. 210, says, "Porta Lafford, &c. Lafford's-Gate was rebuilt anew by Walter Barnstaple, in the time of Edward 3d. or Richard 2d. where, at a stone, end the bounds of the city.

or the Lord's gate, so called from the Lords or Governors of the castle. It stands eastward of the castle, between which is a large space of ground now built into a wide street, called the Old Market from a market of old being kept there, not only for the use of the town as may be supposed, but principally for the use of the garrison in the castle. The great avenue to the city out of Gloucestershire was through this gate, over which in two niches were placed two stone figures representing two of the Lord-Wardens of Bristol castle; supposed to be Anglo-Saxon Kings or Earls of Gloucester; and a vellum manuscript of Rowley, *penes me*, tells whom they represent in these words: "Allwarde, a Saxon, was a skyllyd carveller in stone and woude: hee lyved yn the regne of Eldred, he carvelled the worke of the chappelle in the castle and the ymageries wych thenne stoode in sayde chappelle, of Ælle and Coërnicus wardens of the castle yn daies of yore: Robert of Gloucester removed them to the walle of the ynwarde towere, from whence the present Lorde Warden † hath ta'ne them: Maystre Canynge fayne woulde have the same to be in hys cabinette, but mie Lordis intent is to place them at the gate of the castle or owtfyde of the wauls, as a goodlye specktalles for menne to behoulde and yn sooth goodly specktalles they be, beyng seatty'd and couroned in robes of estate and paramented — Ne are enfayrer carvel than those of owre daies of durable stone, and the depycture of theyr faces beyng styll remaynyng by meanes of theyr beyng keopen from the unwere."

About the year 1130, Robert Earl of Gloucester, base son of Henry 1st. began to rebuild this ancient and strong castle, which was now become greatly impaired; and it being the head of his barony of Gloucester, by ancient tenure, and a place of strength capable of being rendered almost impregnable by situation against any military operations of those days, and perhaps foreseeing the storm that was likely to arise about the succession to the crown, he, agreeable to a promise made to his father Henry 1st. to support the interest of his sister Maud the Empress, and love to his nephew Henry 2d. then a child, set about putting himself in a posture of defence in case of exigency, and rebuilt this his castle of Bristol in a very beautiful, strong, and defensible manner. He first removed many of the old buildings erected by the Saxons; on the walls of which were discovered rude paintings in water colours, which is called in Rowley's manuscripts "a coppie of peynctynges founde onne castle walles stondeyng ynne Godefrye's dayes enthoghten Saxonne." — A Saxon

† The gate was taken down in 1776. And these stone figures are removed hence, with two others from Newgate, to a castle-like building at Brislington, a mile from Bristol, and are there to be now seen.

Saxon King is represented with a scepter in his hand, and several men at work fixing large pieces of timber in the ground, others with hammers driving spike nails, and fastening timber together, forming a kind of ladder work, &c. in all probability it is a rude sketch of the first walling the town by Brighthric, or building the castle by Edw. senior.

Many other antiquities were doubtless destroyed in removing the ruins of the old castle, but Earl Robert seems to have preserved as much of the ancient building as it was thought would not interfere with his grand design: — "The outer walle of the castle (says Rowlie's manuscript) stoodden ynne the daies of Williamme Conqueroure; the square castle wythynne was ybuyldenne bie Robyrte Conneful of Gloucestre, as bee the crosse ynne the area, and the small stronge holde whyche was thenne a watche towre, ecke the two watche towrettes wythynne the walle of the ould castle. The stronge holde yftondeth atte dystaunce from the owtre walle of the ould castle onne boncke of Avon, havynge fyrste a square walle of yttes own, and yn the same twayne of buyldynges of this make [meetynge at these []." Vid. plate No. 11. — Hence it appears what Robert Earl of Glocester did to the old castle: — he preserved the old wall round it, and erected the new buildings within, and the cross; but as Rowlie does not mention the chapel as built by him, No. 3, this was probably part of the old castle, as also the lodge of arrow-men, No. 4, both built in an older style. From the plate alone we can form a just idea of these buildings, it is engraved from drawings on vellum, preserved to this day, to which is added an explanation. The elevations or fronts, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, joined together, formed the inside of the square, and in the middle of this inner court stood the cross, No. 9. No. 5 was a most elegantly enriched front to the outer court and the back part of No. 1, as No. 8 was the back part of No. 3, 7 of 2, 6 of 4. But as I have luckily the original explanation, that is the most authentic as well as only description now extant, I set it down in the very words of the manuscript: "The castle foundatyonne as ytte stoden ynne the daies of Rob. Conf. Gloucestre, wythe Geoffries logge as ytte then was:

Fyrste, the Governours halle fronte.

2. The new-ybulden fronte.

3. The chapelle.

4. The logge of arrow-men.

5. The backe of the Governoures halle wythe toweres.

6, 7. Encrenelled fydes.

8. The backe of the chapelle.

9. The crosse.

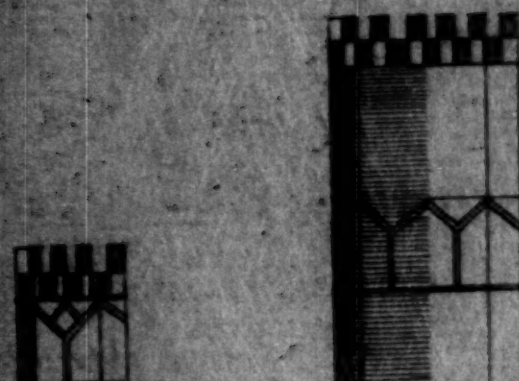
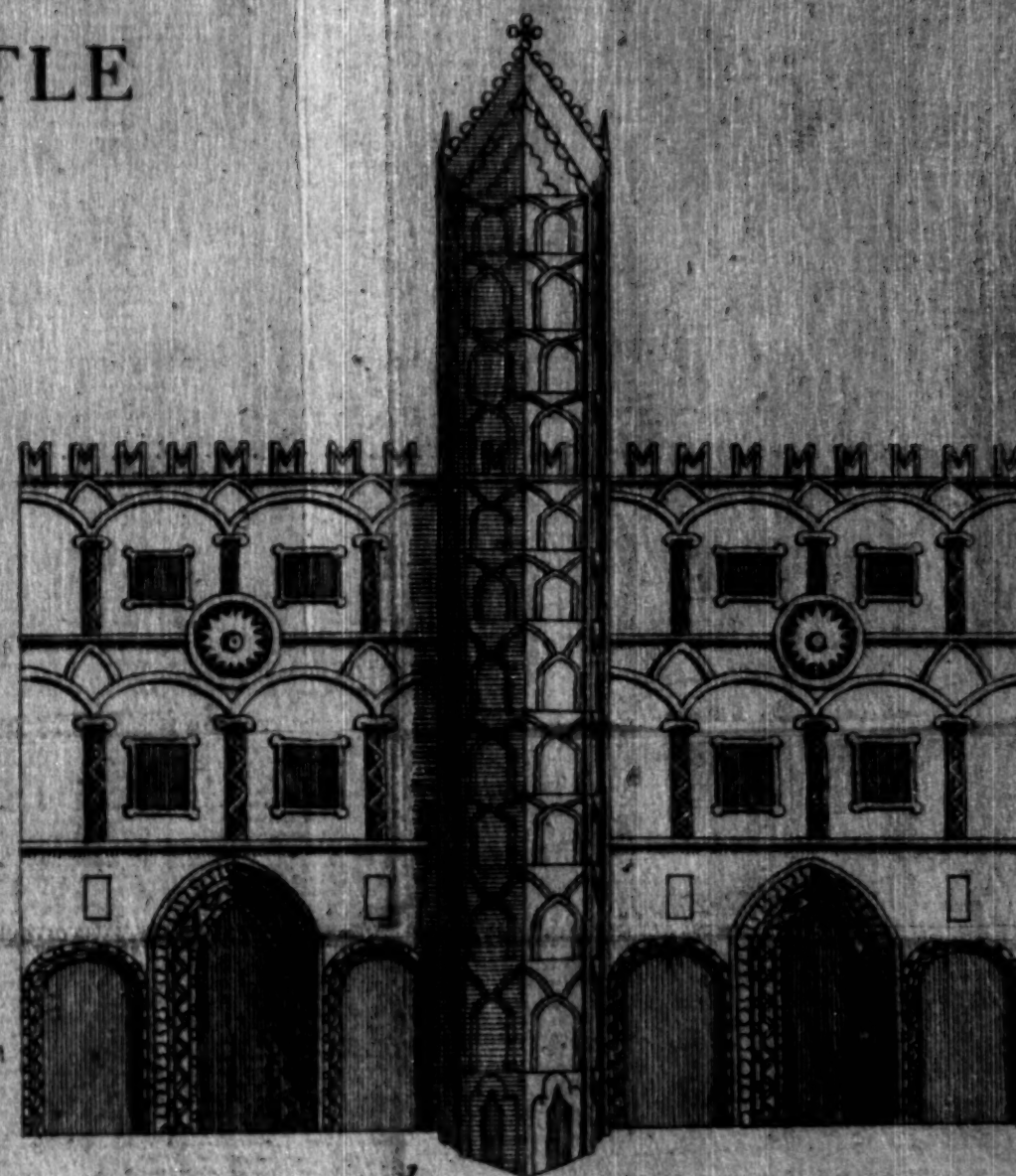
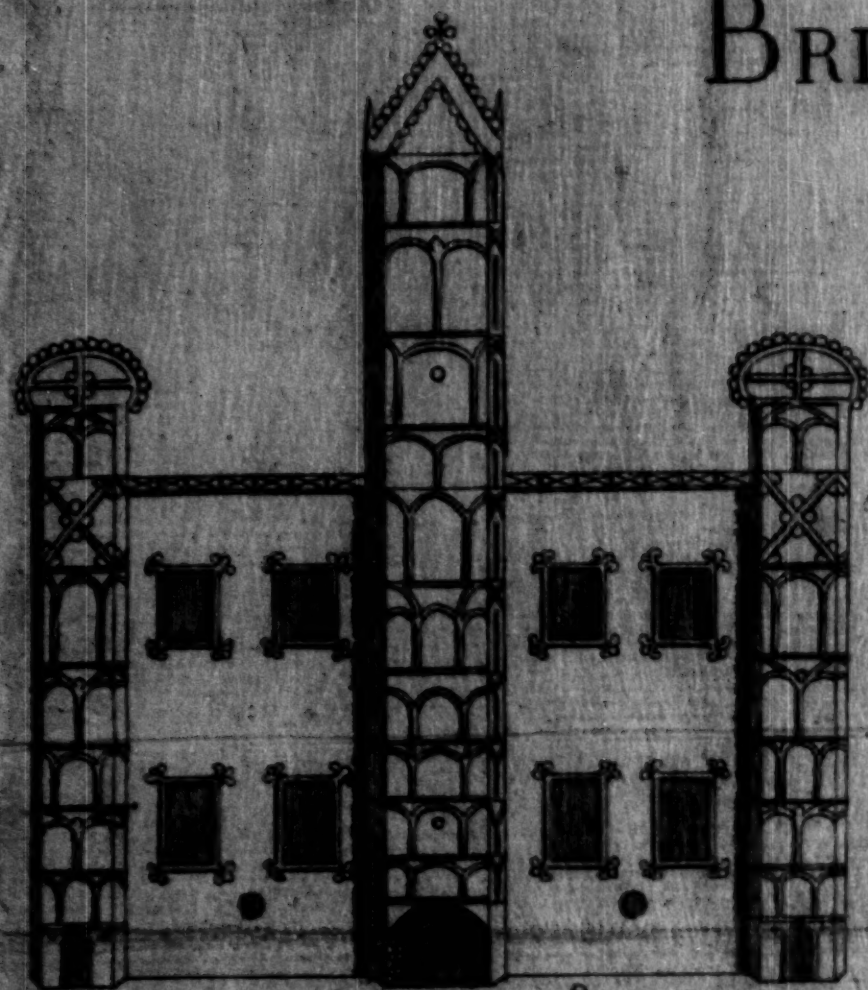
10. The two watche towrettes
11. The smalle stronge-holde on the bancke of Avon, with the founda-
tyonne of the stronge holde near the old walle of the Myttyer castle.
12. Geoffries logge.
13. The river Avon.
14. The river Froom.
15. Castle Ditch.
16. Walle of the olde castle.
17. Mote next the city, where was a draw-bridge."

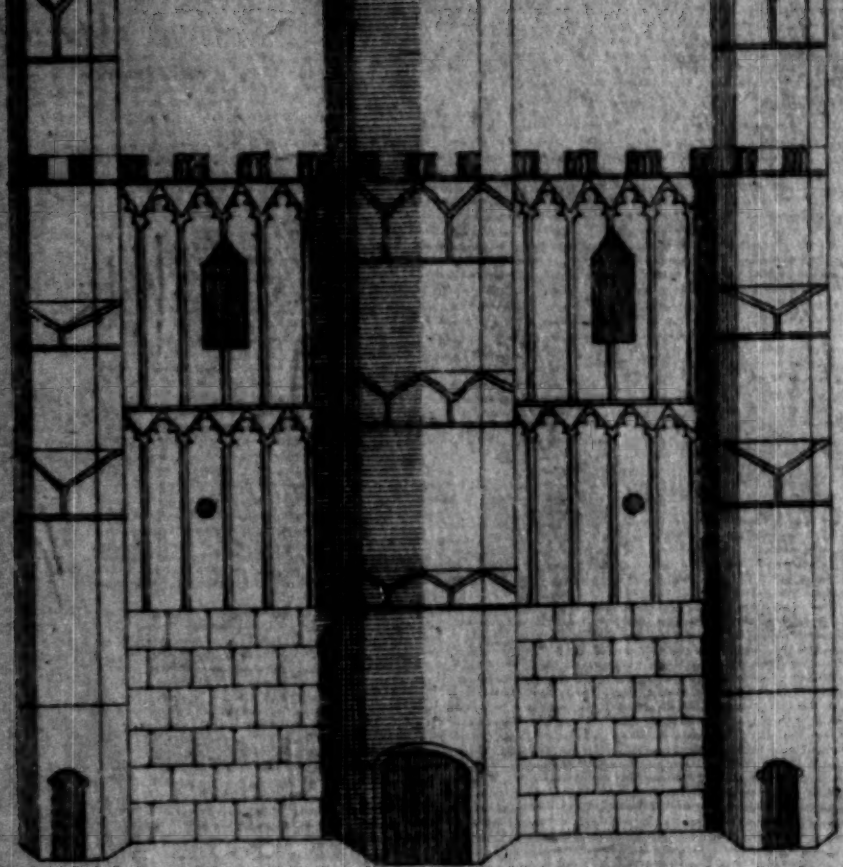
The elevations of the buildings No. 1, 2, 5, are so elegant in their design, the fronts so noble and grand, and the windows so neat and justly proportioned, and the ornaments of No. 5 in particular so very many and rich, that it gives one some idea of the good taste of the rebuilder and founder, who was a man of rare endowments of mind, and did honour to the age in which he lived. — The statues in the front marked (5) represented some of the great men who signalized themselves in those days, or distinguished this city by their favour presence and protection; supposed to be Henry the 1st. at the bottom, father of the founder; Robert Earl of Glocester himself, Henry the 2d. Robert Fitzhamon, and other Lords of Glocester before him; Geoffrie Bishop of Constance, and some of the Anglo-Saxon Earls and Kings, Brightric, senr. Alfred and others. The arms at the top are Robert Earl of Glocester's, and Milo's Earl of Hereford.

The castle of Bristol is thus described by a writer in the days of King Stephen, out of a manuscript in the collection of Archbishop Laud: "Ex unâ tamen regione, &c." *i. e.* "On one part of the city, where it is more exposed and liable to be besieged, a large castle rises high with many banks, strengthened with a wall, bulwarks, towers, and other contrivances to prevent the approach of besiegers; in which they get together such a number of vassals both horse and foot, or rather I might say of robbers and freebooters, that they appear not only great and terrible to the lookers on, but truly horrible; and it is scarce to be credited: for collecting out of different counties and regions, there is so much the more numerous and freer conflux of them, the more easier under a rich Lord and the protection of a very strong castle, they have leave to commit whatever pleases them best in this rich country." — This shows the reason of the *via defensiva*, or defence street, (*vid.* Bottener, p. 236,) being made betwixt the castle and the city, as a guard against the depredations of these freebooters, the licentious soldiery of the castle, upon the peaceable citizens, as the castle was exempted from the jurisdiction of the city and its officers,

BRISTOL CASTLE

as in 1138

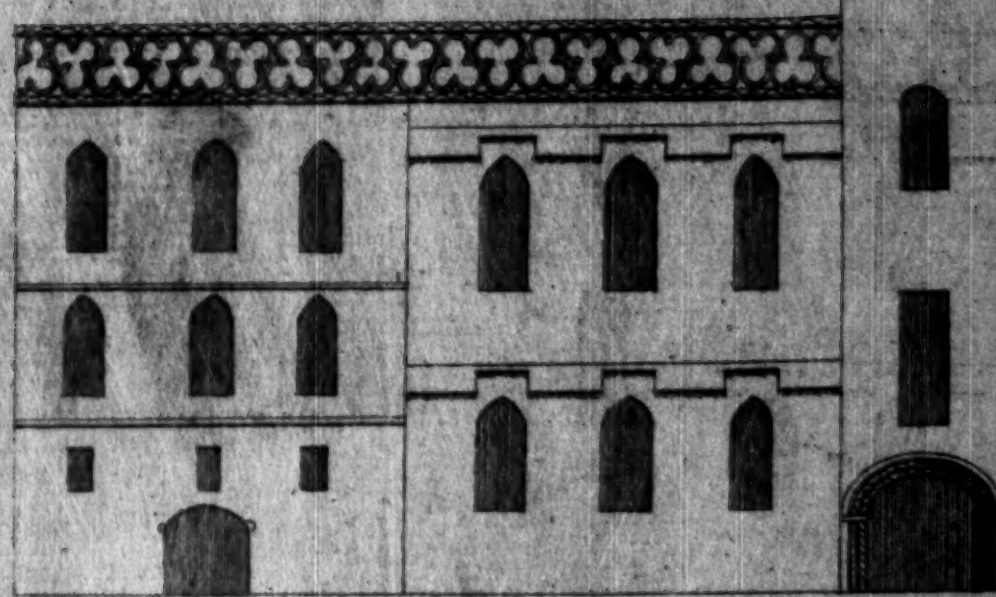




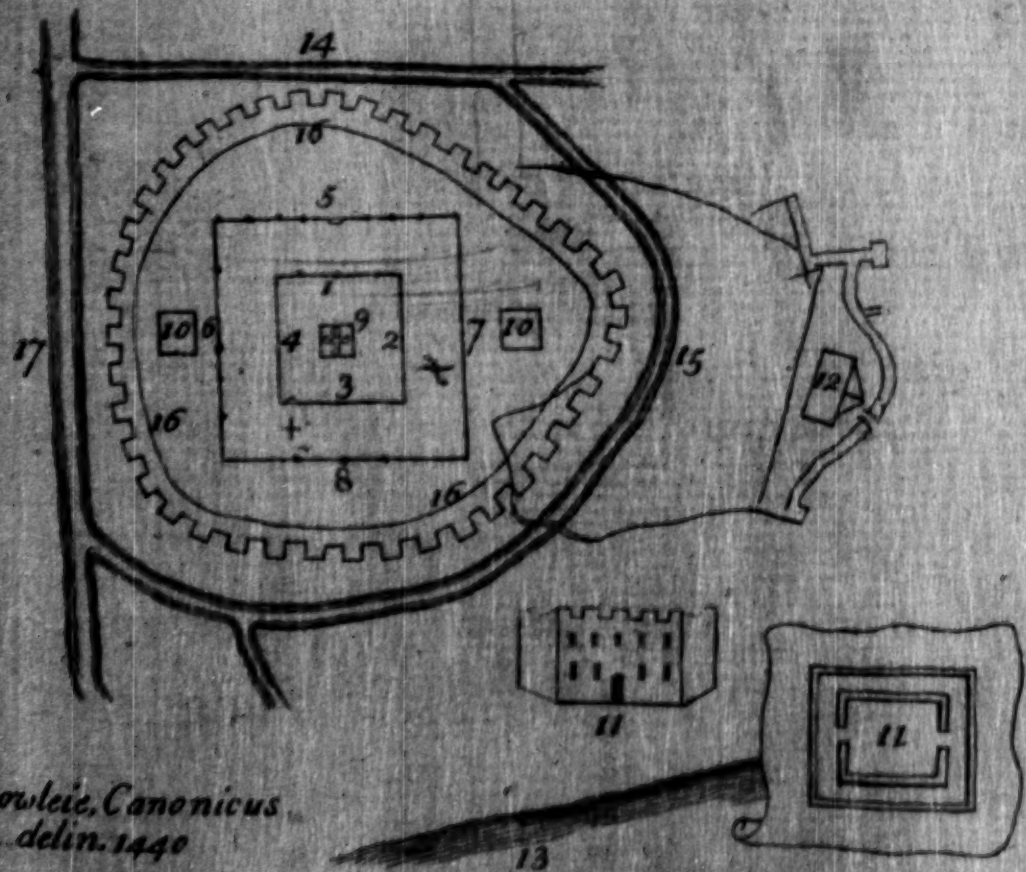
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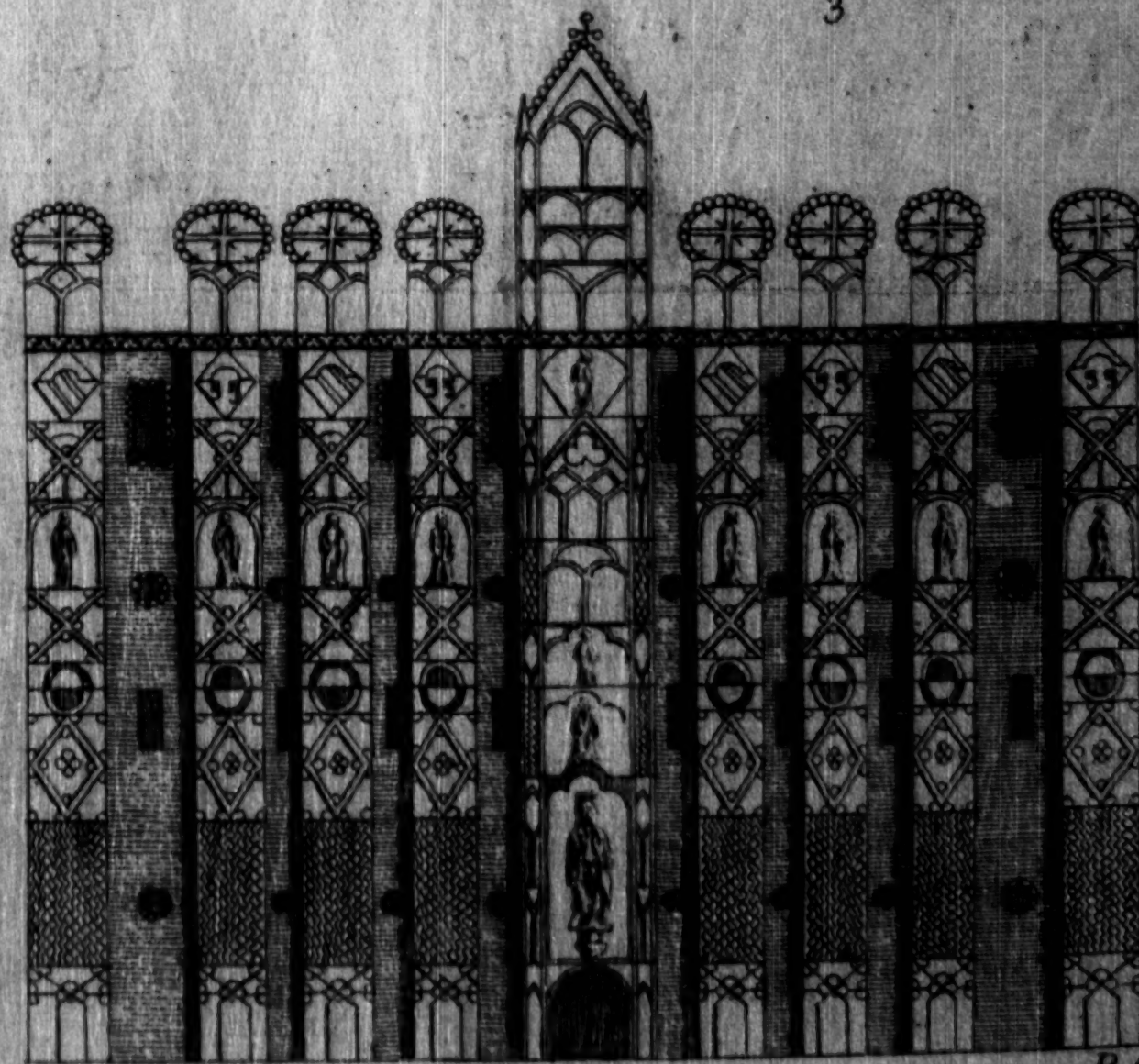


3



11

13



5

Rowleie, Canonicus
delin. 1440

R. Coffin sc.

officers and under its own Governors, who were not always present to restrain them, or might sometimes connive at the irregularity or insults of the military.

William of Worcester gives the following account of the castle of Bristol in the year 1480, and the dimensions of the several parts. I shall give the whole in English, translated from the Latin, which is so defective as to render it difficult to make sense of in some places. He thus describes the walls and circuit of it, page 208, *via a portâ, &c.*

"The road from the gate of the entrance to the castle of Bristol, (called in another place, p. 217, the gate of the deep ditch to the doors (*valvas*) of the entrance of the castle,) is near the East part of the church of St. Peter; and you go on marching by the wall of the ditch of the walls of the castle through Newgate and along the street called the Weer, and over Weer-bridge, leaving the watering-place on the left hand, and making a circuit by the wall of the castle-ditch towards the South, near the cross in the Old Market; thus continuing to a great stone about a yard high of freestone, erected at the extremity of the bounds of the city of Bristol; so proceeding on to the gate of the first or eastern entrance of the castle at the West part of St. Philip's church, which is at the end of a lane behind the Old Market; this contains in a circuit of one part of the tower and walls of the castle 420 steps." At p. 217, he says, "the whole circuit contains 2100 steps." — *N. B.* His steps vary, but are about 21 inches. — In another place he mentions it, p. 259, in English thus: "The quantite of the dongeon of the castell of Bristol after the informatione of porter of the castell, the tour called the dongeon ys in thyknesh at fote 25 pedes, and at the ledyng place under the leede cuveryng 9 feet and dimid; and yn length Este and West 60 pedes, and North and South 45 pedes, with fowre toures standyng uppon the fowre corners: and the hyest toure called the mayn, *i. e.* myghtyest * toure above all the fowre toures ys 5 fethym hygh abose all the fowre toures, and the wallys be yn thyknesh there 6 fote. Item, the length of the castelle wythynne the wallys Este and West ys 180 virgæ. Item, the brede of the castelle from the North to the South, wyth the grete gardyn, that is from the water-gate to the mayng rounde of the castelle to the walle northward toward the Blak-frerys, 100 yerdes. Item, a bastyle lyeth southward beyond the water-gate, conteynyth yn length 60 virgæ. Item, the length from the bullwork at the utter gate by Seynt Phelippes chyrch yerde, conteynyth 60 yerdes large. Item, the yerdys called sparres of the halle royalle, conteynyth yn length about 45 fete
of

* This term is used in the manuscript of Rowlie in the explanation before at fig. 11.

of hole pece. Item, the brede of every sparre at fore conteynyth 12 onch and 8 onches."

And in another place, p. 269, he again describes in Latin: "Porticus introitus aulæ, &c." — The porch or entrance into the hall is ten yards long, with an arched volt over, at the entrance of the great hall.

"The inner entry into the porch of the hall is 140 steps, meaning the space and length betwixt the gate of the castle walls and the walls of the area of the utterward; the length of the hall is 36 yards, or 52 or 54 steps, the bredth of the hall is 18 yards or 26 steps; the heighth of the walls outside the hall is 14 feet, as I measured them; the hall formerly very magnificent in length bredth and heighth, is all tending to ruin. The windows in the hall double, the heighth (de 11 days) contains 14 feet. The length of the rafters of the hall is 32 feet, the Prince's chamber on the left side of the King's hall is 17 yards, in bredth 9 yards and has two pillars made with great beams but very old. The length of the front before the hall with . . . is 18 yards. The length of the marble stone table is 15 feet, situated in another part of the hall for the King's table there fitting. The length of the tower in the East part of it is 36 yards, its bredth at the western and South part is 30 yards. The length of the utter-ward of the castle from the middle gate, and lately separated from the inner ward of the chapple, the principal chamber of the hall is 160 steps. The length of the first entrance to the castle by the gate is 40 steps, that is from the street of the castle by entering at the first gate of the castle into the utterward. The chapple in the utterward or first ward is dedicated in honor of St. Martin, but in devotion to St. John the Baptist, a monk of St. James ought to celebrate the office every day, but does it but Sunday, Wednesday and Friday. There is another very magnificent chapple for the King and his lords and ladies, situate in the principal ward on the North side of the hall, where beautiful chambers were built, but are now naked and uncovered, void of plachers or roofing. The dwelling of the officers of the kitchen belong to the inner ward near the hall on the left side, that is on the South part of the hall. The dwelling of the constable or keeper is situate in the first or utterward on the South part of the magnificent tower, but is all pulled down and ruinous, which is great pity."

According to William of Worcester's measurement of the castle, being 540 feet from East to West, or 180 yards; and 300 feet or 100 yards broad from the North (from the garden to the water of Froom) to the South; it stood upon an area containing 3 acres 2 roods and 35 perches exactly, (3 acres and $\frac{3}{4}$ wanting 5 perches;) whether the great garden within the Bastyle, (an embattled

embattled wall 60 yards long running towards St. Philip's church-yard,) was part of this ground, is uncertain. In the grant of the castle by Cha. 1st. to the corporation, who purchased it of him in 1626, mention is made of "all that close lying without the ditch of the castle, called by the name of the King's Orchard, containing two acres." — If the Governor's or "Constable's hall, with the magnificent tower, was all pulled down and ruinous" in William of Worcester's time, 1480, it is no wonder his description is so very defective and gives so poor an account of this grand castle.

John Leland, who visited it about the 26th year of Henry 8th, and saw it in its decay, thus describes it: "In the castle be two courtes. In the utter courte, as in the northe-west part of it, is a great dungeon-tower, made as it is said of stone browghte oute of Cane in Normandye, by the redde Erle of Glocester. A praty churche and muche loggyng in two area: on the southe syde of it a great gate, a stone bridge, and three bullewarks in *læva ripâ ad ostium frai*. There be manie towres yet standyng in both the courtes, but alle tendith to ruine. The castle and moste parte of the towne by northe standith upon a grownde metely eminent, betwixt the ryvers Avon and Fraw, alias From." Itin. vol. vii. p. 84. 2d edit.

If the castle, so large and beautiful a building, as described in the manuscript, entituled, Rowleie; of such extent and measurement, as noted by William of Worcester, was ruinous in the time of the latter, 1480, it is no wonder, that Leland, in Henry 8th's. time, almost 100 years after, should find it in decay, and say of it, "all tendith to ruine."

It is left to the candid reader to compare the descriptions above of the castle, and its state and condition at different times. That, called Rowleie's, was either a drawing of it in his own time, or taken from one made long before, when in its perfect state; which is most probable, as he represents himself as a great collector of ancient drawings of buildings, churches, chapels, and the like for himself or friend Mr. Canynge. Though this castle agrees in shape and external disposition with some other old castles, yet it is more decorated with images, ornaments, and tracery work, and in a finer stile than is commonly seen in such buildings; which makes it appear as if some other decorations had been added, especially if compared with a part of the old castle, of which there is a print extant at the side of an old plan of Bristol, by Millard, of the year 1672, wherever he got it: a copy of which is here also presented to the reader, together with the ground plot of the pentagonal fort on St. Michael's-hill, with a scale of yards; both of which are too curious to be omitted in a work of this kind, especially as this presents us with a view of part of
Bristol

Bristol castle in the later times, as it stood in the time of the grand rebellion in 1641. (See the plate.) But that in its original state it was very beautiful may be collected from William of Worcester's description and Leland's, and from what Robert, the rhyming monk of Gloucester, says of Robert Earl of Gloucester's improved building of it.

"And Bristow throw hys wyfe was also hys,
And he brogt to gret sta the towne as he yut ys,
And rerde ther an castel myd the noble tour,
That of alle the tours of Engelonde ys yhelde the floure." p. 433.

It is remarkable, besides the figures in the front of the Governor's hall, there are the arms represented of Robert Earl of Gloucester near the top, carved in the stone, G. three bow-rests or. with singular propriety; also G. two bends, one arg. the other or. which were born by Milo Fitzwarren, Earl of Hereford, whose father is said by Sir Wm. Dugdale to have been Constable of England, and to have been a builder (rather rebuilder or repairer) of the castle of Bristol; and the son * was in strict league with Robert and of the Empress Maud's party at Bristol, and assisted him in keeping his castles in favour of Maud.

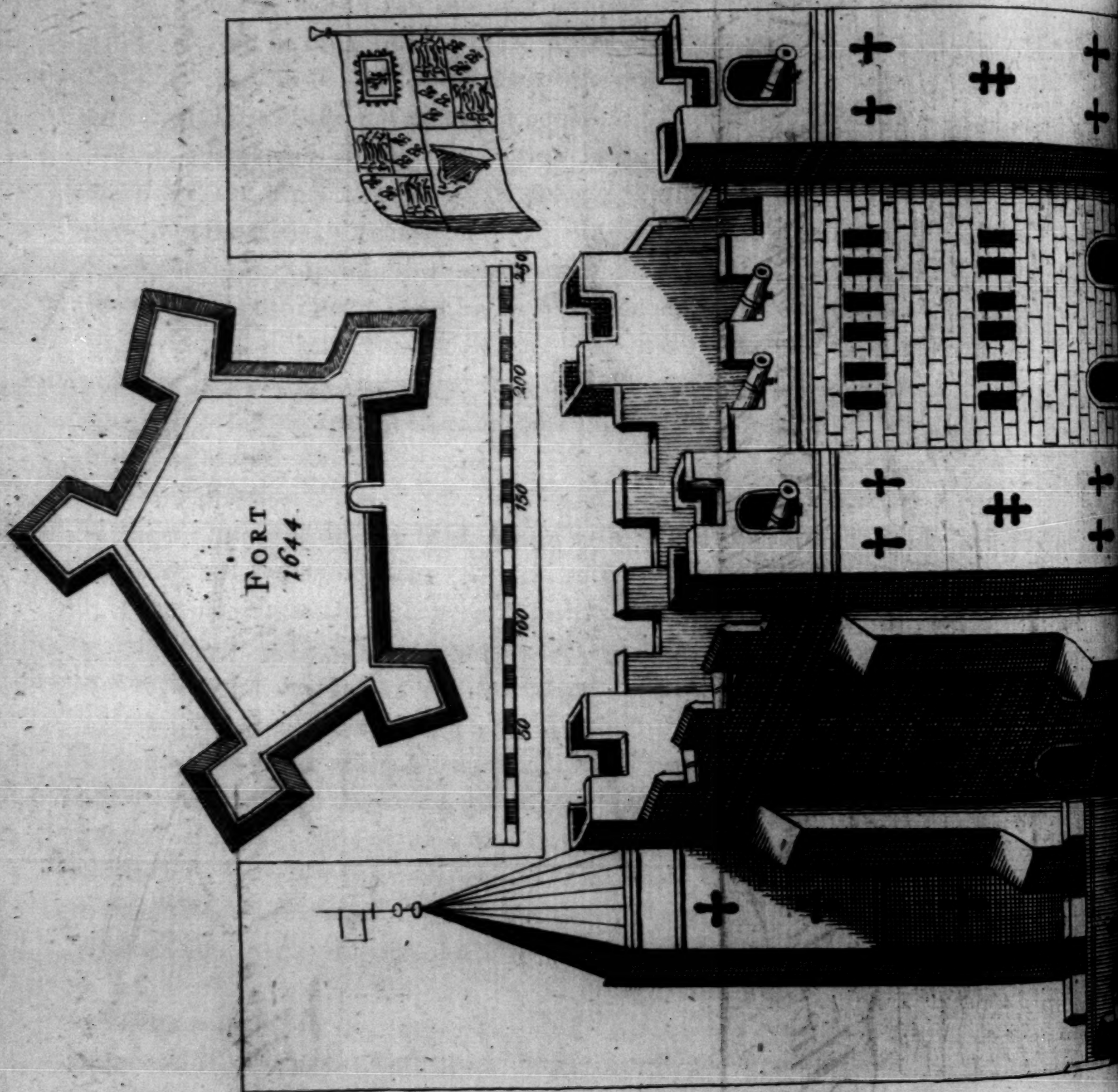
A drawing being found representing Robert the Earl armed cap-a-pee, it is here preserved in the same plate with the castle which he is said so elegantly to have repaired.

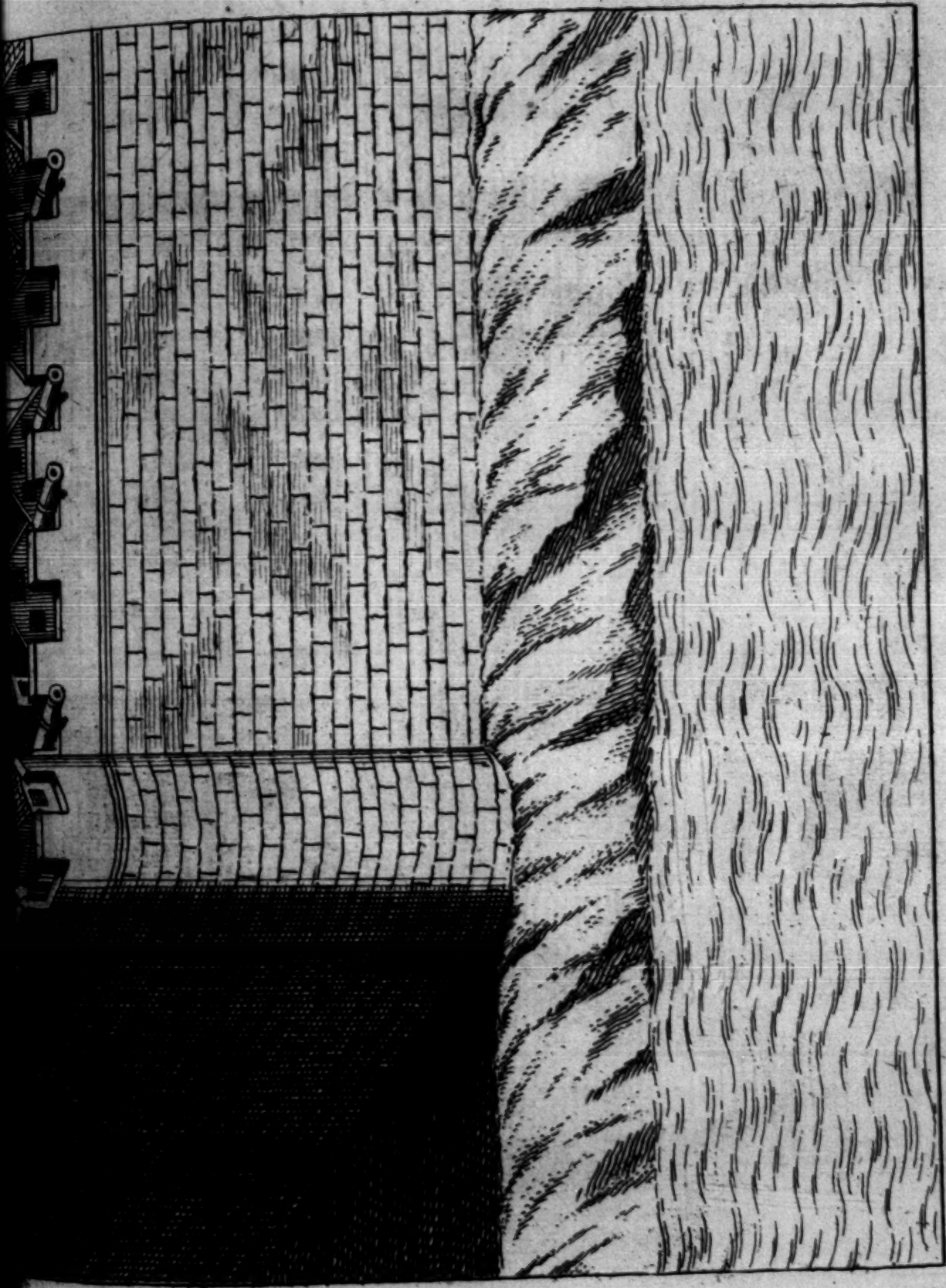
There was formerly a chapel or church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, possibly the "praty church," mentioned by Leland above, (or one of those two mentioned by William of Worcester) of which I have the following old account, in a vellum manuscript, by Rowlie :

"Seyncte Marie Magdalenes chapele. — This chapele was ybuylden bie Ælle, wardenne of the castle, neere Ælle-gate, fythence cleped New-gate; yn thys chapele was ysworne a treatye between Goddwyne Erle or Abthane of Kente, Harold estsoons Kynge of Englande, Leofinus, hys brodres, and oder nobles of the londe Ælle, the founder theereof, was a manne myckle stronge yn vanquysheyng the Danes: hys ymagerie ynne ston whylom stoodden yn sayde chapele, and ys now atte the greete yate. Hee dyd ybuyld the same in Dccccxviii. Hee dyde of hys woundes, gotten ynne honourable combatte ynne Brystowe castle. Sayde chapele ys now ynne rewyn."

If

* Leland, Collec. vol. i. p. 41. Milo constabularius, antio 1141, apud Bristoldum positus jamque consulatus honorem adeptus; rediens a Bristoldo obtulit super altare lanthony leunculum chalcedonicum: testes primæ donationis imperatrix Robert. Comes Glocestriæ, &c.





*The South View of part of y.^e CASTLE on y.^e Bank of y.^e AVON,
With the Ground plot of y.^e FORT, & Scale of yards.*



If in ruin so long ago, it is no wonder we can see so little trace of it at this day. It is somewhat extraordinary, that the figures of Ælle and Coernicus, that stood in the said chapel, afterwards at Lawford's-gate, have not only escaped hitherto uninjured the devouring hand of time, but are now preserved as a curiosity, by a Bristol gentleman, to adorn a very handsome gate at a Gothic, castle-like building, erected at Brislington his country seat, in the neighbourhood of this city. There were two other figures carved in stone at Newgate in niches, which seemed to have been removed formerly from the castle adjoining to that place; probably at the time of its demolition: That of Robert Earl of Gloucester, much abused, has a small model in stone of a kind of castle in his hand, which he so much repaired as to give him the honour of being a founder; and the other of Godfrey Bishop of Constance better preserved, has a most venerable aspect, long beard, with a chalice in one hand, in the act of taking off the cover with the other, a proper emblem in the hand of a bishop. There are few remains of Bristol castle now extant: on the south side in many places are to be seen parts of the old wall, bounding the dwelling-houses there, and Gothic windows: and on the east side are two Saxon arches with an arched roof in a room there, or possibly an entrance; it has the appearance of a church or chapel, but now makes part of the house of a cooper, and is his shop.

Not far distant from the castle without Lawford's-gate is a place called Barton Regis, giving name to the hundred: it was so called, because a farm or barton in the King's hands to subsist the castle, and demesne lands there reserved for its use; the castle itself after the Conquest in the year 1200 being a royal demesne, before that it was appendent to the honour and barony of Gloucester, and as the lawyers speak, the *caput honoris*.

It appears from Domesday-book, "that this bertune was taxed at six hydes* t. William 1st. there were forty-two plow tillages whereof three were in demesne, (I suppose for the use of the castle): this manor together with Bristow paid a yearly rent of one hundred and ten marks to the King, and the burgeses returned that Bishop G. had thirty-three marks† and one mark of gold." A Norman mark (says Rapin) was then valued at 13s. 4d. by which the sum amounts to 73l. 6s. 8d. sterling, and the thirty-three marks to Bishop

B B

G.

* A hyde of land, according to the manuscript of Joannes Glastoniensis, was 160 acres, a tardel 10, a virgate 40, a hyde 160, a fee 640 acres.

† This Bishop G. was Godfrey Bishop of Constance, custos of the castle, who had 28l. an annual sum paid him, and reserved in after grants to all the constables of the castle.

G. is 28l. within a few shillings, the annual sum paid to the constables of the castle.

The following is copied out of the original Domesday-book. "In Bertune apud Bristou erant vi hid. In d'nio iii car. & xxii vill'i & xv bord. cum xxv car. Ibi x servi. & xviii colib'ti h'ntes xiiii car. Ibi 11 molini de xxvii solid. Q'do Rogerius recep. hoc m. de Rege inveni ibi ii hid & ii car. in dominio & xvii vil'i & xxiii bord. cum xxi car. Ibi iv servos & xiii colib'tos cum iii car.

In uno membro ejusdem m. Manesgodesfelle vi boves in do'nio.

De eadem t'ra ten. Ecc'la de Bristow iii hid. & i car. habet ibi. Unus Radchenist. ten. i hid. & h't i car & iv bord. cum i car. Hoc m. & Bristou reddit regi cx mark. argenti; burgenfes d'nt q'd Ep's G. h't xxxiii mark. argenti & unam mark. auri p'ter firmam regis."

This extensive manor of Barton Regis (including Kingwood) is now divided among several Lords, the Duke of Beaufort, Archer of Barr's-Court, (formerly Newton,) Esq; — Chester, — Bragg, — Blathwait, — Creswic, Esqrs. as will be seen below in the parochial history of St. Philip's.

The three hydes of land and one carucate the church of Bristou is said in Domesday-book to hold in the manor of Bertun Regis in William the Conqueror's time, are now scarce to be found, nor to be guessed at. — The manor of Blacksworth there indeed was part of the endowment of St. Augustin's monastery afterwards by Robert Fitzharding.

Having now shewn the antiquity, foundation, site and dimensions of the castle, and given a general description of it, I proceed next to an historical account of its Governors, Constables or Wardens from time to time, noting the facts and extraordinary occurrences which have rendered it famous in history.

About the year 920 ELLA was Lord of the castle, and gained many signal victories against the Danes with his Bristowans, particularly at Watchet; though our Saxon chronicles yet printed have taken little notice of this heroic champion against the Danes, nor indeed of the castle over which he presided. The following old poem was made to the memory of this chieftain about the year 1460, and transcribed from an old parchment in the hand-writing like that in use in Henry the 6th.'s time, and subscribed T. Rowleie.

S O N G E to E L L A. *

O thou or what remaynes of thee, Ella the Darlynge of futuritie,
 Lette this mie songe bolde as thie Courage bee, as everlastyng
 to posteritie; Whenne Daciaes Sonnes, whose lockes of bloude
 Red hue Lyke Kynge-Cuppes burstyng wythe the mornyng dewe,

Arraunged in drear Arraie, upon the letthalle daie, spread
 far ande wyde on Watchettes shore, there dydst thou furyouse

Stande ande bie thie burlie Hande, Besprenged all the
 Meeds wythe gore, drawne bie thie anlace felle, downe

to the depthes of Helle, Thoufands of Dacians wente,
 Bristowanes Menne of myghte, Ydar'de the bloudye fyghte

And acted deeds full Quente — O thou wher'ere (thie bones
 at Reste,) thie spryte to haunte delyghteth beste, Whetherre

upon the bloude embrewed plaine, or where thou kennst
 from farre the Horrid Crie of Warre, or seest some

Mountaine made of Corse of Slayne, or seest the
 hatched Steede, yprauncyng oer the Meede, ande

Neyghe to bee amenge the poynted speeres, or ynn
 Blacke Armour Stalke arounde ymbattled Brystowe

once thie Grounde, And glowe arduous onne the Castle
 Steers, or fierie rounde the Mynstere Glare, Style

lette Brystowe be made thie care, Garde it fromme
 foemenne and confumyng fyre, Lyke Avones streem

ensyrke ytte rounde, ne lette a flame enharme the
 grounde, Tylle inne one flame alle the whole worlde expyre.

* Lord of the Castle of Brigftowe ynne Daies of yore.

Turgot observes that Ella died of his wounds in Bristol castle, and from hence it appears he was also buried in the chapel he had there built: and of his memorial stone I have an old drawing with his figure, &c. above described with the name ÆLFIE over the head, as royally descended crowned, and with two keys in his hands as governor of the castle, and a chain round his neck; it was in the ruinous state of the chapel said to be removed

and preserved by Mr. Canynge afterwards. There are in manuscript the arms of Ella blazoned thus, in Saxon: Sceld a græfen, a shield with crosses patee all over the field. Ella was a name of note in the Saxon times, and is mentioned by Lambard, Top. Dict. p. 106, under Ellandon as "one of the first Saxon captains," and as giving name to that place and to Ellesfield, and to Ellecroft a place near York.

A bridge near the Castle of Bristol is in ancient deeds called Elle-bridge, and the street next it Elle-bridge-street, now corruptly Ellbroad-street, and there is a place near Watchet called Ellworthy to this day, not improbably named from the same chief who distinguished himself so much there.

2. Coernicus succeeded Ella in the government of Bristol castle: we know nothing more of him than what is mentioned before by Turgot, p. 32.

3. The following two lord wardens of the castle we have little account of, except having their names handed down to us as such by Turgotus, Harward and Smallaricus, 4. Vincent, 5. Adelwyn, 6. to them succeeded Egwyn, to him 7. Aylwardus; called Aylward Sneaw (from his fair complexion) * he was descended from Edward senr. the founder of the castle, and not improbably his natural son, of whom Leland gives the following account out of a Latin record of the Antiquities of Tewksbury, — "Anno Dom. 930, Sub Ethelstano &c." i. e. "In the year 930 Aylward Meaw (or Sneaw) so called from his white complexion, of the race of Edward senior King of the West Saxons, was a man valiant in arms under King Ethelstan. This Ailward for himself and his wife Algiva in the time of Ethelred and Dunstan the Bishop erected a small monastery in honor of God, St. Mary and St. Bartholomew on his own ground at Cranbourne about the year 980. He died on the calends of January Anno Dom. . . . His son Algar with his wife Algiva succeeded to his fortunes by right of inheritance. The 8th governor of the castle was Adelbryghte. The 9th Amstuarde, and 10th the above mentioned Algarre were successive governors of Bristol castle: 11th Leofwyn, son of Earl Godwyn, in the life time of Algar, seems by the great power of his father and family to have got the government of the castle of Bristol, and Edward the Confessor by a particular charter granted and confirmed it to him in the 9th year of his reign 1049, which being very curious I have inserted before p. 33, as preserved in the original manuscript of Turgot's account of Bristol and no where else.

Upon

* A gate called Aylward's Gate, since Pithay Gate, formerly preserved the name here of this Saxon nobleman, the street also called Aylward-street. — Botoner, p. 184.

Upon Earl Godwin and his son's being obliged to leave the kingdom, and having forfeited the King's favour, Bristol castle seems to have reverted to its right owner, who was Brietric the brother of Algar, lord of the castle before Leofwyn. During Leofwyn's holding the castle was that very memorable transaction of Godwin and his family and many of the nobility entering here into a solemn league against the King in the year 1050, for siding so much with the French, introducing its language and laws, &c.

12. Brietric succeeded to Algar's possessions, he was a Saxon nobleman of large estates in the county of Gloucester, of which he was Earl, and consequently had the castle of Bristol of right, being part of that barony.* He was a principal man in his country, and employed in an embassy to the court of Baldwin Earl of Flanders, where Maud daughter of that Earl settled her affections on him, but not meeting a suitable return (a crime not to be forgiven by the ladies) she meditated revenge, and being afterwards married to William Duke of Normandy, who conquered Harold and got the crown of England, resolved to gratify her vindictive temper by stirring up her husband against Earl Birtric, whose power and large possessions she might represent as dangerous in the hands of a subject: and her artful insinuations met with but too much success, for the King at that time bent upon degrading even to ruin all the rich and powerful English barons, caused the unhappy and innocent Birtric to be arrested at his manor of Hanley by Salisbury, and sent a prisoner to Winchester, where he died without children many years after, 7th Hen. 1st. Leland thus represents it, (vol. 6. p. 85,) "Inne the later reygne of the Danes and Edward the Confessour was Ælwardus Meaw Erle of Glocester, and he was countid as foundir of Craneburne: Ailwerdus had a funne callyd Briatrice Erle of Glocester, aboute the tyme of the cummyng of Duke Wylliam of Normandie ynto England. Matildis, wife to Wm. the Conqueror, asked Briatrice yn gifte of her husband, and having hym put hym in the castle of Hanley besides Saresbyrie, and there he dyid. Sum say Matildis would have had hym afore Duke Wylliam to her husband, but he refusing it had after hard favor at her handes." All his estates, among which was the castle of Bristol, the head of his barony, were seized by the crown, and settled by the King on Maud his wife:—As Leland observes, "King William gave the preferment of the counte of Gloucester onto his wife Matilde." She had it till her death the 1st of November 1084.

This

* His name is variously wrote, Brietric, Brightric, and Birtric; the last seems to be right from the Saxon derivation, Birt or Birth and ric, i. e. rich by birth or inheritance, as he was "*viro prædiviti*," says Leland.

This Brietric, son of Aylward Meaw, favoured much the city of Bristol, and Mr. Canynge preserved in his cabinet "a stonen bed belonging to Erle Brietric, formerly kept in tower Errys." He was descended from Brietric King of the West Saxons; and in Mr. Canynge's collection of antiquities was "an hystory of Brythricus King of West Sexonnes, and annales from hym to Brythrycus the Erle:" but now irrecoverably lost, and said to be wrote by Turgot a Saxon monk, and continued by Rowlie.

William the Conqueror held the castle of Bristol some time in his own hands, and at the time of his death, 1087. 13. Godfrey Bishop of Constance appears next to have the custody or possession of it, either by grant from the King, or Queen Matilda during her life; being appointed Vice Comes of Gloucestershire, and the deputed or Lieutenant-governor of the Lordship of Bristol and its castle; or by seizure on the death of William 1st. to keep it for Robert his son the lawful heir to the crown. In the year 1072, when the great cause about the primacy of Canterbury over York was determined at Windsor in the presence of the King and his nobles, the instrument was signed there by all present, among whom is, "Ego Gosfrydus Constantiensis Episcopus unus ex primatibus Angliæ consensi."

In Thorp's *Registrum Roffense*, fol. p. 28, is the following, which shews Godfry to have been a great man in those days: "Placito inter Lanfrankum Episcopum & Odonem Episcopum Baionensem. Huic placito interfuit Goffridus Episcopus Constantiensis, qui in loco Regis fuit & Justitiam illam tenuit." About 1072, this Godfrey Bishop of Constance, or Coutance, was a monk brought over from Normandy with Theodwin, whom King William had promoted to the abby of Ely; and under him having the chief government of the affairs of the monastery, was upon the death of Theodwin 1075, ordered by the King to take upon himself the administration of the abby till the King should fix upon a successor, which was in about seven years. Godfrey was present in the year 1080 with Odo Bishop of Baieux, and Haymo the King's sewer, (Dapifer,) and other barons legati regis, at an assembly at Rentford, to enquire into the lands belonging to the church of Ely. The figure of Godfry is still preserved in the Ely table, a painting of great antiquity hung up in Ely palace, in which are the figures of the monks of Ely, and the knights sent down to be quartered on them by William the Conqueror, with their arms; in the first compartment of this picture are Opsalus Miles Balistarum Dux, cum Godfrido monacho, a shield between the two heads, f. arg. plain cross gules. If this painting or Ely table should be older than the 14th century, which is the utmost extent in which oil painting is placed by Mr. Walpole in his anecdotes

dotes on painting in England, vol. 1. p. 24, it will set aside all the received opinions hitherto on that subject.

The time that these knights were withdrawn from Ely fixes this event to the time of Godfrey's administration, for they were called away and sent from Ely into Normandy on the insurrection of Robert the King's son, who in 1077 was endeavouring to seize the dukedom of Normandy.—Godfrey after this in 1081 was by the King promoted to be Abbot of Malmesbury.—(Vid. Bentham's History of the Church of Ely, p. 106, 1771, and appendix p. 5.)

We find also that in the year 1088, the last year of William the Conqueror, among the witnesses of the grants and confirmation to the monastery of St. Mary at York, of Stephan the abbot and Wm. Rufus, was Godefridus Bishop of Constance, "*qui eo tempore Northumbrorum consulum regebat*," (says Leland in Collect. v. 1. p. 26.)

What a great man in his time and how much favoured by his King this Bishop of Constance was, appears from the numerous and large grants of lands he held. Orderic vitalis, l. 4, says, "*Galfridus, &c.*" that Galfrid Bishop of Constance obtained from the gift of King William 280 villages, (*villas*), which we commonly call manors, (*a manendo*), from remaining or residing upon them, and that the West Saxons of Dorset and Somerset having assaulted Montacute, (*Montemacutum*), received a check from this prelate at the head of the men of Monmouthshire, (*Guentani*), London and Salisbury. Under the year 1070 he calls him, *magister militum*. He served his sovereign faithfully in several battles against the Danes and English, and he assisted at a council at St. Paul's 1079, and at the Conqueror's funeral: he died himself in 1093.

This Godfrey the Bishop being in the interest of Robert William the Conqueror's eldest son, with his nephew Robert de Mowbray, in 1088 hastened to Bristol to secure the castle, then a strong and defensible fortress, for the next lawful successor, and to keep it as a place of arms and an asylum on their declaring in his favour. It is thus related in the Saxon Chronicle, Gib. edit. p. 193, "*Godfrith Biscop and Rodbeard a munbræg, ferdon to Bricgstowe and hergodon, and brohton to tham castell the Hergunge.*" That is, "Bishop Godfrey, and Robert a disturber of the peace, went to Brigstowe and committed spoils and brought their booty into the castle." Radulphus de Diceto expressly calls it the bishop's own castle, "*in castello suo Bristoa.*" Our English chroniclers in that year, 1088, have not omitted mentioning this transaction.

On this combination in favour of Robert being defeated, who sold his birth-right, or rather compounded with his younger brother Wm. Rufus, for the trifling pension of 3000 marks per ann. for the present, and assurance of the crown after his decease, our Lord Warden of the castle, the Bishop of Constance, retreated into Normandy as supposed, being not heard of afterwards, leaving behind him here a lasting memorial of himself in a stone carved figure lately in being in a niche on the left going through Newgate, removed thither out of the castle, and since to Brislington. — Duke Robert was through his credulity and easy disposition cozened of his right of succession on the death of his brother Wm. Rufus by his other brother Henry 1st. who not only deprived him of his crown here, but at length of his dukedom of Normandy also, which having sought unjust occasion of invading, the Duke was conquered and taken prisoner, and sent into England; historians say, he was shut up in Cardiff castle, where he remained in prison till his death; but a vellum manuscript roll (penes me) mentions "his leaving his gauntelette in Brigstowe castelle," which was preserved afterwards to later times, and at length came into the possession of the great Mr. Canynge, who placed it in his cabinet. He was probably first sent to Bristol and removed afterwards to Cardiff, to be more out of the way, as the people had an affection for him. — I have a drawing of a stone figure in a praying posture once kept in the castle church, under which is inscribed, "Carne of Roberte Courtehoise mynde yn castelle chyrche." This figure is still extant, being fixed in a wall at the upper end of the North aisle of St. Philip's church. And it may be inferred from this, that it is not improbable but that Robert was not only a prisoner in Bristol castle, but might also have lost his eye-sight there by the hot bras bason which was ordered to be applied to his eyes to take away his sight by his cruel brother, to prevent his escape; and then it is likely was sent to die in Cardiff castle in a remote place. The Saxon Chronicle, p. 230, 17. mentions it clearly, that in 1126, "the King permitted his brother Robert to be taken away from Roger Bishop of Saresbury, and committed him to his son Robert Earl of Gloucester, and suffered him to be brought to Bricstowe and there to be kept in ward in the castel," adding that this was all done by advice of his daughter and of David King of Scotland.

14. In 1089, Wm. Rufus, in consideration of the great services done him by Robert Fitz Haymon his gentleman of the bedchamber, and an active opponent to the Norman faction stirred up in favour of his brother Robert, gave him the honour and Earldom of Gloucester; which with the castle of Bristol appendent to it he held till his death in 1107, with all the liberties formerly

formerly enjoyed by Birtric: he was a great man of his days, left no male issue, only four daughters. Mabile the eldest King Henry 1st. married to his natural son Robert, which he had by Nesta, daughter of Rhees Prince of South Wales; and unwilling to divide the honour of Gloucester amongst all the daughters of Robert Fitz Haymon, conferred the whole on the eldest and his son Robert, and created him Earl of Gloucester.

15. In 1110 Robert was Lord of Bristol castle by this marriage and creation, being then about 20 years of age.

This great heiress Mabile, whom he had espoused, was a very lofty dame; the monk of Gloucester expresth King Henry's courting this lady his ward for his son Robert in some curious old rhymes, and her refusal of him at first, like a true lady of quality, for want of a surname of honour and distinction.*

Sir, sheo saide, ich wote your herte upon mee is
 More for myne heritage, than for myselfe I wis:
 And such heritage as Ich have, hit were to me greet shame
 To take a Lorde, but hee hadde any surname: —
 Damoseill, quoth the Kyng, thou seest well in this case,
 Sir Robert Fitz Hayme thi fader's name was: —
 As fayre a name he shall have, as you may see,
 Sir Robert le Fitz Roy shall his name be: —
 Damoseill, he say'd, thi Lorde shall have a name
 For him and for hys heires fayre withoute blame;
 For Robert Erle of Gloucester, hys name shall be and is,
 Hee shall be Erle of Gloucester, and his heires I wis:
 Inne this forme, quoth shee, Ich wole, that all my thyng be his, &c. }

The whole may be seen in Sandford's Genealog. History, p. 46.

Thus was the lady's scruples removed, and Robert's fortune and greatness accomplished 1109, of this he shewed himself highly worthy in the future conduct of his life. He was the most valiant captain of his age, and in requital of his father's bounty was very active in defending the rights of Maud the Empress and her son, afterwards Henry 2d. against Stephen, who usurped the crown, to whom he proved a continual terror, and he laid the ground-work of all the successes in that war. He was tutor and guardian to the young Prince, and having fortified his castle of Bristol against Stephen, he brought him hither as to a place of safety, and put him to school there with the chief

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* This story is told in nearly the same manner at the end of Langtoft's Chronicle, v. 2. by Hearn, p. 664.

men's sons of the town. Lord Littleton * thus mentions the fact, and finely characterises both the tutor and his ward: "He (the Prince, afterwards Henry 2d.) was carried to Bristol, and continued there four years under the care of his uncle, (Robert Earl of Gloucester,) who trained him to such exercises as were most proper to form his body for war, and in those studies which might embellish and strengthen his mind. The Earl of Gloucester himself had no inconsiderable tincture of learning, and was the patron of all who excelled in it; † qualities rare at all times in noblemen of his high rank, but particularly in an age when knowledge and valour were thought incompatible, and not to be able to read was a mark of nobility. This truly great man broke through that cloud of barbarous ignorance, and after the example of his father Henry 1st. enlarged his understanding and humanized his mind by a commerce with the muses, which he assiduously cultivated even in courts and camps. — The same love of science and literature he infused into his nephew. — The four years ‡ which he now passed in England (at Bristol) laid the foundation of all that was afterwards most excellent in him; for his earliest impressions were taken from his uncle (Robert), who not only in learning but in all other perfections, in magnanimity, valour, prudence, and all moral virtues was the best example that could be proposed to his imitation."

Such is the excellent character of this valiant Governor and Lord of Bristol castle. — In that memorable battle of Lincoln fought the 25th December 1140, § King Stephen was taken prisoner by Robert Earl of Gloucester, who sent him to the Empress Matilda then at Gloucester, from whence she ordered the King to Bristol castle, where he was honorably treated for some time and kept in a safe but gentle confinement; but by the private instigation of the Empress or some of her party, the King, some say, was afterwards laid in irons under the pretence of being seen beyond the bounds of his confinement. || —

Robert

* History of the life of Henry 2d. v. 2. p. 58. 3d edit.

† Wm. Malmsh. dedicated his work to him.

‡ In Holingshead it is said, "he was at Bristol four years, being committed to one Matthews a schoolmaster, to be instructed and trained up in civil behaviour," p. 55.

§ Robert's speech before the battle is preserved in Speed's history, breathing courage, tempered with great prudence and conduct.

|| Lel. Coll. ex Rogero Hoveden. Anno 1137, Robertus Consul filius Henrici regis nothus tenuit contra Stephanum Reg. fortissimum castellum quod dicitur Bristow, & aliud quod vocatur Slede. Anno 1140, Stephanus captus ad imperatricem ducitur & in Turri de Bristow captivus ponitur. — Lel. Stephanus Oderæ in Vinculis — Robertus captus, in ejus Turri Rex captivus erat, cujus solâ captione rex liberari poterat. Igitur absolutus est uterque. Step. obsessam Matildam intra quoddam castellum & ad deditionem coactam eâ indiscretâ animi simplicitate ad Bristouam libere ire permisit. Col. v. 3. p. 31.

Robert the Earl was afterwards taken prisoner himself near Winchester, and was esteemed an equal ransom for the King, who for his greater dignity was released first, after nine months captivity, on the feast of All-Saints 1141, the Queen and one of her sons, with two principal lords of that party being kept in the castle of Bristol as hostages, from the time of the King's being dismissed from thence till the Earl was also released and returned to his friends at Bristol, when he set free the Queen and other hostages. — This war was now resumed with various successes and disappointments on both sides; but in the year 1146 the Earl of Anjou earnestly desired the Earl of Gloucester would send back his son Henry, who then had been absent from him at Bristol four years, to which the Earl of Gloucester, though unwillingly, consented; but they parted to meet no more, for Robert the Earl died of a fever the 31st of August or the beginning of September 1147, to the great loss of Matilda and injury to her affairs, for he was the most virtuous man confessedly of those times; and his virtue was such that even those times could not corrupt it: — It was thought he might have attained the crown himself, the nation being equally grown tired of Matilda and of Stephen, but he thought it less glorious to be a King, than to preserve his fidelity and honour inviolate.

This Earl added so many new, strong and fine buildings to his castle of Bristol, and rendered it a fortress so much more defensible, that he may be esteemed justly a founder, and was thus complimented in a stone statue "formerly preserved in the inner afforciaments of the castle," then at its demolition fixed up at Newgate on the right hand opposite the Bishop of Constance, since removed to a gentleman's seat at Brislington. He was buried in the choir at St. James's priory in Bristol, which he had founded in 1129.

Milo Earl of Hereford was appointed to the custody of the castle of Bristol in the wars with King Stephen 1141, where he made great repairs and improvements, as appears by his arms on the top of the governors hall-front G. two bends, one or, the other argent, along with Robert Earl of Gloucester's. — After it was taken Sir Bartholomew de Currishall (whence the Cheurchill or Churchill family) held it for King Stephen.

16. The next Lord of Bristol castle was William, eldest son and heir of the above Robert: Leland says, "Robertus Consul had a sunne caullid Wylliam that was Erle after him: — Wylliam dyed yn Brightestow castell, and wyllid to be buryid by hys father at St. James, but he was prively conveyed by night onto Cainsham. He had founded there a smale priory in memory of his son Robert, who died younge 1166: and after he newly repayred it and endowed it, makyng it an abby of canons regular; he gave it the whole lordshyp of

Marschefel and impropriated the benefice to St. James priory, and the benefice came consequently to Tewksbury." — This William died here in 1173, and had three daughters, Mabile, Amicia and Isabel.

In the 35th year of Henry 2d. 1189, Isabel was married to John Earl of Moreton, the King's youngest son; to her William had given the earldom of Gloucester, and Henry engaged to give Mabile 100 pounds in portion in lieu thereof. John continued his marriage with her until the first year of his coming to the crown, 1199, when having no issue by her he divorced her, and she married Jeoffry de Mandeville Earl of Essex: John gave back great part of her fortune, but retained the honor of Gloucester and the lordship of Bristol in his own hands with the castle, which never after returned to the Earls of Gloucester the right heirs. — Leland says, v. 6. p. 86, "King John had no issue by her, and kept her but a yere, (which must be a mistake,) and so repudiating her toke to wyfe the Erle of Herefordes daughter, and reteynid yn his hondes the toun and castelle of Brightstowe within the hundred of Berton, lying in Glocestyrshire hard by Brightstowe, as betwixt the forest of Kingeswode and it: and so it hath synce stil remaynid yn the Kinges handes."

The castle of Bristol having been thus in the possession of 16 lords doing baronial homage or service from its first erection Anno Dom. 915 till the 1st year of King John, was with the city now become a royal demesne, and annexed to the crown: and from henceforth the Kings of England reserved it to their own use, choosing the constable and other officers, keeping a garrison there, and appointing them salaries and perquisites. King John in the 8th year of his reign granted the town of Bristol in fee farm to the burgeses at a yearly rent of 245 l. which rent was paid to the 9th of Henry 3d. (the castle of Bristol excepted,) reserving the prisage of beer, as much as the constable of the castle and his people there may have need of, also the bailiwick of Berton, the chase of Brull [ii] of Keynsham, and the wood of Furches, all which the King retained in his own hands.* — And the 17th of Edw. 1st. the townsmen of Bristol paid 23 l. 9 s. 10 d. to the constable of Bristol castle in lieu of prise of beer, called tyne, belonging to the castle, and the constable accounted to the King for the same, as part of the profits of the castle. †

What this prisage or tyne was, may be right to enquire: — It is evident the constables, knights and serjeants which were in castles, as well those belonging to the King, as those before belonging to the barons, did use in former ages to exercise great superiority over the towns which were near them, as was
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* Madox Excheq. p. 228, c. 2. (N.) (S.)

† Magn. Rot. 17 Edw. 1st. Rot. 1. m. 2. a.

this of Bristol, and also over the adjacent country : no wonder men who were covered with steel should domineer over burgessees and peasants, the armed over the unarmed ; the former used to make captures upon the latter of hay, corn, beer, and other things under divers denominations, to wit, of prise, tyne of castle, forage, &c. — The prise of beer, *prisa cerevisiæ* for the use of the castle of Bristol was usually worth by the year 100s. or 5l. and was answered to the King as a yearly due. By custom these captures became familiar and even rightful. But the burgessees of towns were wont to complain of these captures to the King, who in some charters made to towns, did sometimes grant amongst other franchises, that they should be free from prise, tyne of castle, and such like captures.

In 1289 Peter de la Mare renders an account to the King of 23l. 9s. 10d. in lieu of prise of beer called tyne, belonging to the castle, as part of its profits, so that *tyna castri* seems to have been various at different times. — In the 15th year of Henry 3d. the sheriff of Gloucester, Wm. de Putoft, would not answer for the profits of the county, because the King had granted them for the custody of the castles of Bristol and Gloucester, and for the maintenance of Eleonor his kinswoman and of all the soldiers dwelling in the castles of Bristol and Gloucester all the profits of the county of Gloucester and the rent of Berton Regis there of 60 marks by the year, and the prise of beer worth 100s.

The castle of Bristol being now vested in the crown and a part of the royal demesnes in the King's hand, he used to issue forth his grant of the constableness of the castle to his nobles or favorites ; who had 20l. per ann. salary with all profits belonging to the said office, and the naming of two watchmen to watch by night and by day, and for the keeper of the gate a fee of 2 d. a day, and 3½d. per day for the two watchmen, as appears from the copy of the grant of the said constableness the 4th Edw. 6th. to Sir William Herbert, knight, together with the stewardship of the city, in the following form.

Edwardus Sextus Dei gratiâ, &c. *i. e.* Edward the sixth by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, of the church of England and Ireland the supreme head, to all to whom these presents shall come, health — know ye that we in consideration of the good, true and faithful service which our beloved and faithful servant Wm. Herbert knight hath done us in times past, of our own special favour, certain knowledge and meer motion, as also with the advice of our council have given and granted, and by these presents confirmed to the said W. Herbert knight, the office of constable or keeper of the castle of our city or town of Bristol, and warder or keeper of the gate of the said castle, and also the nomination and
appointment

appointment of the two watchmen to watch as well by day as by night within the said castle: and that he have authority and power from time to time to nominate and appoint under him two watchmen within the said castle, and we ordain and appoint him the said W. Herbert, knight, constable and keeper of the aforesaid castle, and warder and keeper of the gate of the said castle by these presents, to have, hold and enjoy the offices, nomination, custody aforesaid and each of them, to the said W. Herbert by himself or by some sufficient deputy or deputies for the term of his life, together with all and singular the profits allowances commodities and emoluments freely and as amply as Edward Duke of Somerset, or any other on account of the said offices held the same; and we further grant by these presents to the said W. Herbert for the exercise of the said office of constable, twenty pounds payable by the sheriff of Bristol out of the ferm of the said city, and two pence a day for the office of warder, and for the wages of the two watchmen, three pence farthing, together with all other profits, &c. belonging to the said offices, &c. And as Edward Duke of Somerset our uncle lately held the office of seneschall or steward of the said city or town of Bristol, with the fee, profits, &c. belonging to the said office, of the gift and grant of the mayor and commonalty of the same, which office with the fee and profits, &c. are lately come into our hands and our disposal, and so ought to remain by reason and virtue of a certain act of parliament held at Westminster, 4th November last past, among other things published and proposed, know ye that we have given and granted by these presents to the said W. Herbert, knight, the said office of seneschal or steward of the said city or town of Bristol, as fully as it is come to our hands by reason of the said act of parliament and ought to be and remain, to have and to hold the said office for the natural life of the said Duke of Somerset, without any composition to us or our heirs, &c.

Witness myself at Westminster 27th Feb. 4th year of our reign.

The custodes or constables of Bristol castle appointed by the Kings of England that have come to my knowledge are next to be considered, without omitting any memorable transactions that have happened here during their government. King John in the 6th year of his reign, confirmed to John le Warre the grant (which he had formerly made to him before he attained the crown of this realm, at the request of Isabel then his wife, daughter and coheir of William Earl of Gloucester) of the honor of Gloucester and castle of Bristol, with the manor of Bristleton a part of that honor.

In the reign of King John, Hugo de Hastings was constable of Bristol castle: whether it was during his custody of it or not, does not appear; but in

in this reign the princess Eleanor, called the damosel of Brittany, after a successful battle fought by King John against her brother Prince Arthur at Mirable in Normandy, 1st August 1202, was by the King's order sent to Bristol castle, and there kept close prisoner for forty years by her cruel uncle King John, for no other crime but her title to the crown after her brother, who was supposed to have been privately made away with. She at last died here unmarried in miserable confinement in the 25th of Henry 3d. 1241.

In the 7th year of Richard 1st. 1196, Bristol castle was besieged, and one Richard Dorescuilz was amerced 5l. for having assisted at the siege.

In the 8th year of his reign, 1224, Henry the 3d. having made Ralph de Wilington (called in old writings Radulphus de Castello) governor and constable of this castle, gave him also the wardenship of the chase of Kainsham, which shews the Kings of England had once a chase there for the ranging of deer; and in 1229 Hugo de Burge was governor here: and in 1257 King Henry the 3d. came to Bristol, and summoned Lord Percy to attend him there upon an expedition into Wales.

In 1244 Henry the 3d. ordains that as often as the burgeses of Bristol shall choose a mayor, (the time of war only excepted,) they shall bring him before the constable of the castle to be sworn and admitted.

Roger de Leeburne a baron, Anno 44th Henry the 3d. 1260 was made constable of the castle of Bristol.

"In 1264 Guarine de Baffingburne and Robert Walerande, keepers of Bristow made oute suddenly an hoste to Walingford, but they prevayled lyttle," says Leland Collect. p. 660. It was designed for the relief of Prince Edward then a prisoner there, under the Earl of Leicester one of the rebellious barons. Soon after this Bartholomew de Inovence was made constable of Bristol castle.

In the Baron's wars in the reign of Henry the 3d. each party being ready to take what advantages should offer during that state of uncertainty, Prince Edward son to King Henry, thought it necessary to store with provisions Bristol castle, which the King his father had intrusted him with: to that end he came to Bristol and would have obliged the townsmen to find him what provisions he wanted; to supply which he fined the burgeses 1000l. As people stood then disposed, this demand made perhaps a little too haughtily raised a sedition among the townsmen, which forced the Prince to retire hastily into the castle; he was no sooner there, but the inhabitants resolved to besiege him; or at least to keep him so closely blocked up that he should not escape, well knowing that for want of necessaries he could not long resist.

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This resolution threw Edward into a very great straight: he got out of it however by a device, which indeed freed him from the present danger, but soon brought him into another, from whence he could not so happily disengage himself: he sent for the Bishop of Worcester and intimated to him, that he intended to adhere to the barons; but desired first to talk with the King his father to persuade him to give them entire satisfaction: but being thus blocked up, he desired him to be security for him and to accompany him to London to witness his conduct. The Bishop depending on the Prince's sincerity prevailed on the townsmen to let Edward go; to which they consented and the blockade was raised. The Prince and Bishop set out on their journey; but when they came near Windsor, Edward clapping spurs to his horse rode away from the Bishop, and secured himself in that castle; but was soon after forced to accept of the barons terms, and to surrender that castle to them. This was in the year 1263.

William son of Hugh and brother of Gilbert Lord Talbot had custody of the castle of Bristol, the 18th of Henry 3d.

In the year 1271, Dominus Johannes de Muscgres was constable of the castle, and William de Stanhurst subconstabularius.

In 17th Edward 1st. 1289, Peter de la Mare was constable of Bristol castle, and renders an account to the King of 23l. 9s. 10d. in lieu of prise of beer called Tyna Castri belonging to the castle, as part of its profits. The Scotch Earl of Marr was taken and confined in Bristol castle from the year 1306 to 1314.

In the reign of King Edward the 1st. upon the beginning of his wars in Scotland, which happened about the year 1295, Bartholomew Badlesmere was employed by the King, who for his gallant behaviour there, was summoned as a baron to parliament, and became a very great man in his time: he was also made governor of Bristol castle, and received a grant from the King of the manor of Chilham in Kent. He was a second time made governor of the castle, town and berton of Bristol.

Roger Bygod son of Hugh, nephew and heir to the last Earl, had a grant from King Edward of the castles of Bristol and Nottingham to hold for life, and the 20th Edward 1st. he surrendered them to him again.

In the reign of King Edward the 2d. Hugh le Spencer Earl of Winton, called by historians senior, for distinction from his son Hugh, who were both chief favorites of the King, by their excessive pride and covetousness became extremely odious to the people, as well as to the Queen and Prince, who were both out of England and durst not return; being banished by the King as traitors. The Queen hearing of the sentiments of the people, made sail for
England,

England, where she framed a powerful army of mal-contents, who marching with her to Bristol, where the King then was, were joyfully received by the inhabitants ; and in testimony of her welcome Hugh the father being brought before Prince Edward and the barons attending him, (though 90 years of age) was condemned to be hanged, which sentence was put in execution on the 25th of October 1326, in the sight of the King and his own son Hugh (who escaped not his punishment.) Leland tells us, Col. 673. vol. ii. that " Sir Hugh Spensar the father was drawen hanged and beheaded at Bristowe, and his body hanged up with two stronge cordes, and after four days it was cut to peices and dogges did ete it : and because he was Counte of Wynchester his hedde was sent thither." Upon the death of Lord Hugh le Despencer, the King and Hugh the son early in the morning entered a little vessel behind the castle, with design to get to the Isle of Lundy, a place of security, or else into Ireland ; but after being many days at sea were perpetually driven back by contrary winds : and at length being obliged to land, they came ashore at Glamorgan, from whence they retired to the abby of Neath, where trusting to the promises of the Welch they hoped for security. But Hugh not thinking it safe to trust them got privately into the castle of Kaerfilli, which he stoutly defended, and in the end obtained of the forces sent by Queen Isabel a capitulation, with a promise of safety as to life and limb. After which he got again to the King, but soon after, viz. on the 16th of November following, the King, Spencer, Chancellor Baldock, and Simon de Reading and a few other domestics, were taken near the castle of Lantryffern ; some say, at the abby of Neath. On the 20th following they were removed to Monmouth castle, where the great seal was forced from the King. From thence they were all brought prisoners by Sir Henry Beaumont to Hereford, and were delivered to the disposal of the Queen and her son, who soon after ordered them all (except Chancellor Baldoc) to be hanged : as for the King he was deposed and kept close prisoner at Kenelworth-castle, from thence he was removed in April 1327 to Corf-castle, and then to Bristol-castle : there he remained until it was found out that some of the town had formed a resolution to assist him in making his escape beyond sea. Upon this discovery he was removed to Berkeley castle, which was to be his last prison : here he was under the care of Sir John Maltravers, and Sir Thomas Gurney : — " These champions (says Stowe) bring Edward towardses Barkley, being guarded by a rabble of hellhounds, alonge by the Grange belonging to the castle of Bristowe, where that wicked man Gorney making a crowne of haye put it on his head, and the soldiers that were present mocked him, saying, " Tprut avaunt Sir
D D Kinge,"

Kinge," making a kind of noise with their mouths as if they broke wind backwards: they feared to be met of any that should knowe Edward: they bente their journey therefore towards the left hande, riding along over the marish grounds lying by the river Severn; moreover devising to disfigure him that he should not be known, they determined to shave his head and beard; wherefore as they travelled by a little water that ran in a ditch, they commaunded hym to lyghte from his horse to be shaven with the said cold water by the barber, who said, "that water must serve for this time." Edward answered, "would they, nould they, he would have warm water for his beard," so shed tears plentifully." On the 22d September 1327, they put their bloody orders into execution by thrusting a red-hot iron through a horn pipe up his fundament, which burnt his bowels, and by this horrible murder the unhappy Prince expired.*—In order to conceal their execrable deed, the two murderers sent for some of the inhabitants of Bristol and Gloucester to examine the body; and there appearing no marks of violence, they concluded he died a natural death; this examination was carefully attested by witneses and immediately dispersed over the whole kingdom.

In the year 1336, the 9th of Edward the 3d. an inquisition was taken the 17th of May in the castle of Bristol, relating to the right of patronage of the house of St. Mark of Billiswick in Bristol, before Hugh le Hunte, who was then deputy constable there; and in the 13th of the same King, Richard de Kyngheton was constable of the castle.

In the 35th year of Edward the 3d. Queen Phillippa grants Edmund Flambard the constableship of this castle for life, receiving 20l. per ann. besides fees for the watchmen and the officers of the Forest of Kingswood and Filwood; he resigned the same, and then she appoints Robert de Foulehurst in his room, which was confirmed by King Edward.

King Edward the 3d. 1373, in his charter separated Bristol from the county of Gloucester and made it a town and county of itself, and ordered that for the future the mayor when chosen should not be presented [as usually] to the constable of the castle of Bristol to be by him accepted: But that presently after

* By inquisition in Cotton's Abridgement of the Records, it appeared that Thomas Lord Berkley was not then at Berkley, and had no part in this murder. — Mr. Gray in his Pindaric Ode called the Bard, finely touches this barbarous murder:

Mark the year, and mark the night,
When Severn shall re-echo with affright
The shrieks of death, thro' Berkley's roofs that ring,
Shrieks of an agonizing King!

after his election, he should take his oath before his next predecessor mayor, in the Guildhall of Bristol.

In the 43d year of Edward 3d. 20th August, Hugh de Segrave was appointed governor of this castle for life.

And the 15th July, 47th of Edward 3d. John de Thorp had the constablenesship of this castle granted to him.

In the 10th year of Richard the 2d. the parliament accused many of his domestics of high treason, three of whom, viz. Sir John Salisbury, Knight, Sir Thomas Trivet, Knight, and John Lincoln, Esq; (after a long confinement in Bristol castle,) were at length removed to the Tower of London, after which on the 12th of May 1389, Sir John Salisbury was executed at Tyburn, and the other two were discharged. — King Richard by following his own vicious inclinations, and the advice of his evil counsellors, was his own destruction. Four of them (in order to escape the hand of justice from the Duke of Lancaster, who was now in England with an army as a competitor for the crown,) made their escape from London to the castle of Bristol with an intention to have made a stout resistance, viz. Wm. Scroop Earl of Wiltshire, Sir John Busby Knight, who had been Speaker of the House of Commons the last parliament, Sir Henry Green, and Sir James Bagot, Knights. They came here in the month of July 1399, but were soon followed by the Duke of Lancaster, at whose arrival the gates of the town were thrown open to the Duke's forces; he immediately commanded the castle of Bristol to be stormed; which in four days time surrendered at discretion, and soon after the three first were beheaded, but Sir James Bagot made his escape into Ireland. The 29th of September following King Richard was deposed, and not long after he was by eight assassins and Sir Pierce of Exton, murdered in Pomfret-castle. — John de Thorp continued constable of the castle the 1st and 3d year of Richard 2d.

Henry the 4th and his wife Joan, Nov. 14, 1413, constitute Hugh Lutterel constable of the castle of Bristol.

King Henry 6th. in the year 1444, granted the manor and hundred of Bristol (with other things) to Henry de Beauchamp, son of the late Earl of Warwick, in reversion, from the death of Humphry Duke of Gloucester; and Leland v. 6. Itin. p. 80, calls him, "*Dominus quoque Castri Bristolliae cum suis annexis.*"

The 16th Jan. 21st of Henry 6th. Sir John St. Loe was made constable of the castle of Bristol for life: he died the 12th of March the 26th of Henry 6th.

In the 24th year of his reign 1445, King Henry 6th grants to the mayor, &c. of Bristol, all the gates, ditches, walls and suburbs of the said town, with all fairs, markets and courts there and in the suburbs, with all fines, issues, redemptions,

redemptions, and amerciaments belonging to the same, (the castle of Bristol and its ditches excepted :) this grant was for 60 years, the mayor, &c. paying into the exchequer per ann. during that term 102 l. 15 s. 6 d. and to the abbot of Tewkesbury (for the time being) for the tythes of the town 14 l. 10 s. to the prior of St. James of Bristol (for the time being) for the yearly rent of the mill at St. James's-Back 3 l. to the constable of the castle of Bristol and his officers for the time being, (that is to say,) to the porters of the gate and watchmen of the castle, and to the forrester of Kingwood, 39 l. 14 s. 6 d. to the (custodi maritimo) the warden of the port or quay-warden 6 s. 8 d.

King Edward the 4th. in his progress about several parts of the kingdom, came to his castle of Bristol ; when Sir Humphrey Stafford of Hooke had a grant, dated the 15th of June, from the King of the stewardship of the duchy of Cornwall for life, likewise the constableship of Bristol castle, and of several of the King's forests, with that of the constablewick of the forest of Kingwood, which in former times was of great extent and annexed to the castle. This gentleman was a branch of the family of the Earls of Stafford, he died the 6th of August the same year, according to Dugdale, v. 1. p. 173.

In the 1st year of Edward 4th. 1461, Sir Baldwin Fulford after suffering imprisonment with his two accomplices, Bright and Heflant, Esqrs. in Bristol castle, were executed here, the former having given bond to Henry 6th. that he would either take away the life of the Earl of Warwick, who was then plotting to dethrone the reigning sovereign, or lose his own head. Our old chroniclers in the year 1460 mention this fact ; Stowe relates it thus under that year : " Sir Baudewine Fulford undertook under pain of losing his head to destroy the Earl of Warwick, but when he had spent the King a thousand marks in money he returned again : " but an additional authentic evidence of this fact is in an old parchment roll, in which among other curiosities preserved in the cabinet of Mr. Canynge, is mentioned " the real bond given to Henry 6th. by Sir Charles Bawdin à Fulford (commonly cleped Baudin Fulford) to teke the life of the Erl of Warwick or lose his head, which he did to Edward 4th." See p. 45.

By an entry in the old church books of St. Ewen in this city, " for washing and cleening the church when King Edward the 4th. came there in September 1461, 4 d." it appears when this event of Sir Baudwyn Fulford happened, and it confirms the account above given ; King Edward having stood at the great window there when he passed by to his fate. Mr. Canynge was also mayor in 1461 to September 29th of that year, when Phillip Mede was chosen, so that the execution of Sir Baudwin Fulford must have been the beginning or middle of September 1461. — Mr. Adams's manuscript penes me says, " King Edward

Edward came to Bristol in September 1461, where Sir John Bawdin Fulford, Bright and Heflant were beheaded," — and in 1474 he lodged at the abbey of St. Austin's there. This family of Fulford was of great note and antiquity in the county of Devon; there is a place of that name near Exeter now, which seems to have given name to the family (*de turpi vado*) and was their seat and residence. — John Fulford a descendant of Sir Baudwin of Fulford, was sheriff of Devon the 27th of Henry 8th. he bore G. a chevron arg. — One of the family, son of the above Sir Baldwin, lies buried in Exeter cathedral, with an inscription in Gothic letters on a large black marble stone in the eastern aisle still to be seen: *Hic jacet magist. Joannes Fulford filius Baldwini Fulford milit. hui. Eccle'. Resid. pr^o. Archid^o. Tottn. deinde Cornub' ult^o. Exon, q. obiit xix die Januarii A. D. xv. xviii cui aiæ ppitietur Deus.* — Here lies Master John Fulford, son of Sir Baldwin Fulford, Knight, residentiary of this church, first Archdeacon of Totness, then of Cornwall, and lastly of Exeter, who died 19th January A. D. 1518, on whose soul may God have mercy.

This event has given occasion to a poem called the Bristol Tragedy, lately published among Rowley's poems, in which the name is called Sir Charles Bawdin Fulford. In the manuscript (Adams's penes me) he is called Sir John Bawdin Fulford, which shews how uncertain they were in the name at the time, and that the misnomer in that poem derogates little from its authenticity. It is remarkable, that one Sir Cantelow in the service of Edward the 4th. is introduced as an active person in that tragedy; and it appears (by a manuscript, Rich penes me,) that Henry 6th. was taken in disguised apparel at the abby of Salley in Yorkshire by one Cantelow, in 1465, and was thence brought to Elstone, and then to the Tower; this is a proof that King Edward the 4th. had such a person as Sir Cantelow much in his interest and at his command, and affords some additional proof of the authenticity of that poem.

In the reign of King Henry the 7th. Giles Lord D'Aubeney held the castle of Bristol; as did afterwards Sir John Seymour of Wallhall in the county of Wilts Knight, he was the son of Sir Roger Seymour of Evenfwindon in the county of Wilts Knight, by Cecilia his wife, daughter of John Lord Beauchamp, of Hache in the county of Somerset: the said Sir John in the 9th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th. 1518, was one of the knights for the body of that King; he obtained a grant at that time of the constablewick of this castle for his own life, after which to his son Edward, to hold in as ample manner as the said Giles Lord D'Aubeney held the same.

In the 4th year of Edward the 6th. Sir William Herbert was granted the custody of this castle.

Upon

Upon the alteration of religion in 1549, many rebellious tumults broke out in Cornwall, Devonshire, Norwich, and at Bristol. At the last place timely care was taken to repair and fortify the castle and walls of the city, which were mounted with cannon, also the city gates, most of which were made new; proper guards being placed night and day to prevent any attempts which might be made by any tumult within the city, or without in order to surprize the same. By the prudent management of Mr. William Chester the discontented citizens were soon appeased, by his procuring a general pardon for them; after which the soldiers within the city (commanded by Lord Gray of Wilton) marched to Honiton in the West, where they beat those rebels.

In 1545 and 1553 a mint was established in the castle, and the church plate seized at the dissolution was coined there, and a printing press set up.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Sir John Stafford, Knight, was by her Majesty (as a reward of his valour) granted the constableship of Bristol castle, in which office he continued a long time; he was also one of the band of gentlemen pensioners during the space of 47 years to the Queen and King James the 1st. he died on the 28th of September Anno Dom. 1605, and was buried with his ancestors on the North side of the communion table in the church of the Virgin Mary in the town of Thornbury in the county of Gloucester, where his monument gives the above account, which has this inscription on it: "Heere lieth the body of Sir John Stafford, Knight, a gentleman pensioner, during the space of 47 years to Queen Elizabeth, and King James, hee had as a reward of his valour and fidelity, conferred upon him by her Matie the constableship of Bristol castle, where hee continued a long time. Hee lived (as himselfe on his death bed confessed) in the frail and slippery course of a soldier, and a courtier, from the time of his manhood neere unto the time of his death; notwithstanding sensible of his end and that accompt hee was to give at the last day, hee did fully and freely forgive all men sealing the same by calling for and receiving the blessed sacrament as a pledge of his forgiving other men and of the forgiveness of his own sins; for whatsoever the frailty of his life or bitterness of the disease whereof he died might be, his hope of a better life through the mercies and sufferings of his Redeemer, made him a conquerour over and beyond those humane frailties. Hee dying in the sound faith of a penitent sinner, a loyal servant to his Prince, a lover of his country, wherein he did beare the chiefe offices of trust and credit, and a founder of an almshouse in the parish where he lived, endowing the

the same with 10 pounds per annum to be paid for ever, obiit 28^o die Septemb
A^o Dni. 1624.

In cujus memoriam et veritatis hujus testimonium nepos ejus Sciens videns
que hoc monumentum posuit hac fretus spe votoque inquiens ;

Non aliter cineres mando Jacere meos."

Arms or rather the crest, though it is in a shield, gules a wolf's head or.
and the Stafford knot or.

In the year 1602, 6th of March a petition was presented to the privy council from the mayor and commonalty of the city of Bristol, complaining that Sir John Stafford, Knight, keeper of his Majesty's castle of Bristol, being seldom or never resident there, but leaving a mean and unworthy deputy in his stead hath of late time suffered many poor and indigent people, to the number of 49 families consisting of about 240 persons, to inhabit within the said castle, who for the most part are persons of lewd life and conversation and in no way able to relieve themselves but by begging and stealing to the great annoyance of the citizens, the rather for that the said castle being exempted from the liberties of the city though it standeth within the body of the same, doth serve for a refuge and receptacle of malefactors as well of the city as others that fly thither to escape justice : it was thought and ordered to the petitioners humble request, that for avoiding the present inconvenience and preventing the like for the future, the Lord High Treasurer of England and Chancellor of the Exchequer calling the said John Stafford before them, should take order for removing the persons then residing in the said castle unto such places where they last dwelt, and also that there be not hereafter any more admitted to inhabit there, but only such as Sir John Stafford will undertake for their sufficiency and good behaviour, to the end the city be not further charged or molested by them, or his Majesty's castle pestered with any such base cottagers or scandalous inmates.

By a charter bearing date the 13th of April the 5th of King Charles the 1st. 1630, the said King grants to the mayor, burgesses and commonalty of the city of Bristol, all that his castle of Bristol, (as the ancient demefne and parcel of the possessions of the crown of England,) with its walls, ditches, banks, houses, buildings, courts, orchards, gardens, waters, water-courses, lands, &c. within the circuit or precincts thereof. And in consideration that the situation thereof was 30 miles from the city of Gloucester, but contiguous to the city of Bristol ; and by reason that no justice of the peace for the county of Gloucester lived near the said castle to inhabit, and that the officers of the city of Bristol having no authority within the same, as not being a part of the said
city,

city, whereinto many thieves, malefactors, and other disorderly livers within the precincts of the said castle have fled, and from thence have escaped from the hands of justice; all which being considered, the King did ordain and grant that from henceforth the same should be separated from the county of Gloucester, and made a part of the city and county of Bristol and in all respects to be subject to the same powers as that of the said city; and that all the inhabitants of the castle be made free-men of Bristol, and that from henceforth no officer of the county of Gloucester should have any power or authority therein; the King reserving his right to all his tenants dwelling within the said castle as his demefne or parcel of the possessions of his crown.

By one other charter bearing date at Westminster the 26th of October in the 6th year of the said King, 1631,* he in consideration of the sum of 959l. by the mayor or burgeses and commonalty of the city of Bristol paid into the Exchequer at Westminster, which was acknowledged in full discharge for ever of all that grant made by the said King to the said mayor, &c. of all his castle of Bristol with all its rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever, in reversion of three lives of John, Gillian, and Nathaniel Brewster, granted to Francis Brewster the 23d of August in the 2d year of the reign of King Charles the 1st. 1626, or for 80 years if the said three lives should so long live, under the yearly rent of 100l.

In September 1634 the city purchased of John Brewster his estate and one life more to come of the castle, with the lands, tenements and appurtenances for 520l. which was presently paid him, all which was granted to the city in fee farm at 40l. per ann. rent for the same by the King in recompence of charges for billeting soldiers, transporting them to Ireland, and fitting out ships against the pirates. It was by application to the Queen and her intercession with the King this grant was obtained. The city had spent 1100l. in billeting the soldiers.

The premises particularly specified in reversion in the above charter are, viz. the castle of Bristol, the mansion-house within the same, and all that close lying without the ditch of the castle called by the name of the King's Orchard, containing two acres, and all that parcel of land called the Inner Green; and those tenements (which then amounted to 53) within the precincts, site, compass, or circuit of the said castle, with all that wood-yard there with its appurtenances, and all and singular the houses, buildings, structures, barns, stables, dove-houses, orchards, gardens, lands, tenements, cottages, halls, chambers,

* After this grant in the same year 1631, a new armoury was built in the castle of Bristol.

chambers, shops, cellars, follars, entries, outgoings, ways, paths, void places, easements, fruits, waters, water-courses, wharfs, profits, commodities, advantages, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever thereto belonging, excepting out of this grant all advowsons of churches, hospitals and chapels, and other ecclesiastical benefits, and all knights fees belonging to the said premises, with all mines of lead, tin, or other mines-royal whatsoever, thereto belonging : all which are granted to the said mayor &c. and their successors for ever to be held from him the King, and his heirs and successors, as of his manor of East Greenwich in the county of Kent, by fealty only, in fee and common soccage and not in capite, nor by knights service ; yielding yearly to the said King and his heirs and successors a fee-farm rent of 40*l.* of lawfull money to be paid into the exchequer at Westminster &c.

All within the castle precincts granted by King Charles the 1st, was confirmed to the said mayor &c. in the 16th year of the reign of King Charles the 2^d. dated 22^d of April 1664, being after the happy restoration.*

At the beginning of the unnatural rebellion against King Charles the 1st. the magistrates of the city of Bristol thought it necessary to repair the fortifications of their castle and the walls of the city, which was done accordingly by the 23^d of October 1642, and also to build at the citizens expence a fort on Brandon-hill, with a communication to another fortification on St. Michael's-hill, which was afterwards turned into a royal pentagonal fort (commonly called the royal fort ;) see the plate : from this was a communication to another fortification called Colston's mount, (from his having the command thereof and being also deputy governor of the city and castle.)

Lord Paulet sent Sir Ferdinando Gorges with Mr. Smyth of Ashton to get leave to bring in certain troops of horse into Bristol, but the mayor Richard Aldworth refused, having received expresse orders from the King it was said to receive no forces on his side or the parliaments, but to keep and defend the city for his Majesty's use. Sir Alexander Popham sent 500 horse to Bedminster intending to lodge them in Bristol to make up 1000 on the parliament's behalf, but the corporation then refused him, and set the train bands to watch and ward as well without the gates as within to keep out all strange forces by night and by day, 100 at least armed with pikes and musquets and ball. The gates and portcullises were repaired and made strong with great chains hanged up within them, and great strong rails full of

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long

* The office of keeper of King's-wood forest, and of the forest of Filwood, was granted by the said King to Colonel Humphry Cook, in 1660.—See Sir Robert Atkyns History of Gloucestershire, p. 493.

long iron spikes without every gate, so that no horses could pass by or over them. The castle was likewise repaired within with many forts on the walls to plant ordnance on them for defence, the great tower was likewise well repaired with the battlements where they were decayed at the top: the old walls of the tower by the approbation of workmen were found very strong, which caused them to mount great ordnance on the top of the tower to scower the hills far about. Some elms in the marsh were cut down to make carriages for great ordnance and within were two pieces of great ordnance planted, with gunners to attend them at need.

After this came Colonel Effex towards the city with an army, horse and foot on behalf of the parliament, which the city intended to keep out, and for two days the gates were double warded for resistance. The magistrates besides their old store of munition of which they were well provided, procured 300 new musquets made to furnish the train bands and others that wanted. The third day which was the 5th December 1642, notice came of the approach of Colonel Effex's army from Berkley and Thornbury, the citizens presently arrayed themselves for defence, the mayor and all the council were at the Tolfey, studying how best to preserve the city for his Majesty's service, but in the midst of their good endeavours came the mayor's wife and many women more with her with petitions to receive in the parliament's army, and so disturbed the council with their importunities, that the women prevailed and procured the gates to be opened to the great grief of the commons prepared to fight in defence of their liberty. This wicked council our mayor and aldermen payed soundly for afterwards. The 30th of December Sir Alexander Popham went to Exeter with one thousand men. Lord Paulet being denied entrance into Bristol, marched to Wells and westward, and having sustained some loss there and at Sherborne embarked at Minehead for Cardiff where his son-in-law T. Smyth, Esq; of Ashton died, and his corpse was brought over to be buried where he was born.

The turbulent and the disaffected to the King, began now to be very clamorous, and some of the magistrates it is said, (under hand) had no great objection to the parliament cause. Those that were immediately concerned were the right worshipful Richard Aldworth then mayor, and Joseph Jackson, and Hugh Brown Esqrs. the sheriffs; when in the beginning of December the two regiments of foot were admitted, Colonel Effex their commander immediately took upon him the government of the castle of Bristol. Those citizens that were loyalists and would not declare for the rebels, began to feel the weight of their oppressions; in so much that at length it became very dangerous

dangerous for them to walk the streets, or if found without the city they were sent prisoners either to Taunton or Berkley castles. With such despotick power did the rebels behave; that Colonel Effex, offended at one of his soldiers for modestly asking for his pay, instantly shot him through the head.

From this time the castle was governed by various masters. On the 16th of February 1642-3, five troops of horse and five companies of foot entered the city, commanded by Col. Nath. Fiennes, Col. Popham, and Clement Walker, &c. And the 27th they were followed by Sir Edward Hungerford's forces, and the castle was now made a garrison for the parliament, and fortifications added to it. Soon after these gentlemen came to the city, Col. Effex was made a prisoner; and Fiennes was appointed governor of the city and castle. In consequence of this, an oppressive tax was laid upon the citizens, to pay the rebel forces &c. which amounted to the sum of 55l. 15s. per week,* assessed on their lands, goods, money at interest, and stock in trade; this levy laid on every man's property, was to last for three months, or till the King's troops were disbanded, which was confirmed by the rebel parliament; and the first payment was to begin on the 1st of March following; this ordinance extended over the kingdom where the rebel army had any power.† The standing committee appointed for this occasion were Robert Aldworth then mayor, Joseph Jackson, and Hugh Brown the sheriffs, Richard Holworthy, alderman, Luke Hodges, and Henry Gibbs. The power these had in conjunction with the officers of the army, viz. Cols. Fiennes, Popham, Walker, &c. was great, and produced many acts of oppression. In March, 1643, an association of some of the principal inhabitants of this city, was entered into, for letting into the city Prince Rupert with some of his Majesty's forces then at Durdham Down ready to their aid: but before it could be put in execution the design was discovered by some tattling females active on the parliament's side the night before; which was on the 7th instant, and two of the principals who had his Majesty's commission for so doing, were taken into custody, viz. Robert Yeomans, Esq; one of the last year's sheriffs, and Mr. George Boucher, a wealthy merchant; who experienced the greatest cruelties at the hands of the rebels; chained by their necks and feet in a dismal dungeon within the castle for twelve weeks, during which time they were deprived of the liberty of seeing or speaking with their nearest relations, or any other acquaintance; confined in the dark without the

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benefit

* See Rushworth's Colls. from p. 932 to 938.

† In Fiennes Letters to Mr. John Gunning junr. of Bristol, his demand was 200l. of him by the bearer, which was his man Ralph Hooker, on pain of military discipline.

benefit of fire or candle, with slender diet and pining grief extremely emaciated, at length they were brought to their trials before a court-martial at the house of Mr. Robert Rogers at the bridge end: where they received sentence to be hanged. * In pursuance of which they were brought from the castle on the 30th of May, 1643, to the place of execution, which was in Wine-street, near the Guard-house; many persons were struck down for praying for them; nay they were denied the Rev. Mr. Towgood and Mr. Standfast, two of the Church of England divines, to assist them with their prayers; instead of whom were substituted three of the most violent and notorious schismatics they could choose out of Bristol, viz. Cradock, Rosewell, and Fowler, who instead of comforting them in their last moments reviled them, charging them with hypocrisy and apostacy, to the moment they were turned off the ladder. † About this time Walter Stephens, a leader amongst the rebels, demolished the Virgin Mary's chapel on Bristol bridge: and on the 17th of July 1643, Governor Fiennes gave orders to demolish St. Peter and St. Philip's churches; but this happily was prevented on the 22d inst. by Prince Rupert's appearing with 20,000 men to attack the city, which he did on the 24th in six different parts; which obliged Fiennes to draw forth his forces out of the castle, consisting of 2500 foot and a regiment of horse and dragoons: he divided them into six bodies to defend the walls of the city. — However on the 26th Colonel Washington found means to force a passage through the hollow way betwixt Brandon-hill and Windmill forts (secure from the shot) to Froom-gate, but with the loss of about 500 of the King's forces, that were killed by the rebels out of the windows of their houses. At length Fiennes ordered a parley to be beat, ‡ when it was agreed on the 27th instant that the garrison with divers citizens should march out of the city; on which Prince Rupert became governor of the city and castle.

The following is a true relation of the taking of Bristol, in a letter from an eye witness to the governor of Oxford, July 30, 1643. (British Museum, pamph. fol. sheets, No. 3.)

“ At

* In May, 1643, Fiennes had of the King's friends then prisoners in the castle, Sir Walter Pye, Sir William Crofts, knights, and Colonel Connesby, &c.”

† See *Mercurius Rusticus*, or the Countries Complaint, printed 1648. See also a little pamphlet published on the occasion, where a very explicit account is given of the most barbarous usage, unjustly inflicted on these suffering gentlemen, extended even to their young families after their death. In a pardon granted by Charles 1st. to the mayor, burgeses, and commonalty of Bristol, dated 4th Feb. 19th of his reign, 1643: Nathaniel Fiennes, Richard Cole, Walter White, Thomas and Richard Hippisley, Robert Baugh, and Herbert, late provost marshal at Bristol, were excepted, being actors or advisers and assistants in the above detestable murder.

‡ Vide *State Trials*, vol. i.

" At the assault of Bristol the outworks were very strong, and cost near 500 common men's lives on the King's side. Colonel Herbert Lunsford was slain, and the Lord Viscount Grandison shot and Master Bellasis wounded in the head by his own sword, which was struck to his head by a musket when they rushed in upon the works: neither of them in any great danger. It was the hottest service that ever was in this kingdom since the war began. In his Majesty's army there are at least 14000 armed men. The city was surrendered on Wednesday upon this condition;—That the commanders were permitted to ride out with their swords, and the common men to march out with their sticks in their hands, so many as were pleased to go; but at least 1000 of the garrison soldiers very willingly remain in the castle to serve his Majesty. Colonel Fiennes marched out without molestation or hurt, who attempted before to escape; but was stopped by the seamen, who are his Majesty's friends. The Royalists found in the city 1700 barrels of gunpowder, with match and bullets proportionable, 60 brass pieces of good ordnance, and all the arms, 18 good ships in the river belonging to merchants, and 4 ships belonging to the Earl of Warwick, that came lately to relieve it, which have good store of ammunition in them. The city gives 1400l. by way of composition, to save them from being plundered; upon which his Majesty hath sent a proclamation strictly to prevent it, that it shall be death for any soldier to plunder. Sir Arthur Ashton came post to Oxford on Friday to inform his Majesty of the state of things there. Upon which the council of war and council of state agreed to send away Sir John Pennington speedily to Bristol, to have the command of the ships, and a proclamation to all mariners that are willing to serve the King to this effect, that they shall have their pardon who have served under the Earl of Warwick, and also their pay that is due from him presently paid at Bristol, and his Majesty's pay and his favour for the future.

Informations of the 31st July were,

Bristol taking,

Exeter shaking,

Gloucester quaking.

The report is that Bristol is to pay but 50,000l. in money for composition, but that they are also to cloath 1500 of the King's soldiers according to their quality: common men 3l. a suit, and gentlemen and commanders 6l. which amounts to 140,000l. There was found in the castle of Bristol 100,000l. as is reported."

The day before the city was taken all the family plate of John Harrington, Esq; of Kelson, was for security removed into Bristol castle, among which was
a large

a large golden font, in which Sir John Harrington (afterwards a very ingenious poet) was christened; a present from Queen Elizabeth, his godmother. His house had been plundered several times: he is said to have been the only one of that family ever tainted with disloyal principles. Prince Rupert with part of the forces, consisting of 900 horse, 2500 foot, and 1500 auxiliaries, having now possession of the city, his Majesty Charles 1st. with Prince Charles and the Duke of York, came hither on the 3d of August, where the King during his stay lodged at Mr. Colston's house in Small-street; and he extended his most gracious pardon to many of his inveterate enemies, for which they afterwards made a most ungrateful return, joining afterwards the rebels, who under Fairfax and Cromwell, having gained some advantages in the West, determined to lay siege to and retake Bristol, of which the following is the particular relation given by themselves.

"After reducing Sherborn, Bristol being considered as the only considerable port the King had in the whole kingdom for shipping, trade, and riches, and also a magazine for all sorts of ammunition and provisions, it was resolved to march thither for reducing that city. Two thousand horse were sent before, under Commissary-General Ireton, to preserve the towns adjacent to Bristol from plunder and firing, for the better accommodation of our quarters; and advice was sent to Vice-Admiral Capt. Moulton, riding about Milford-haven, to send ships into Kingroad to block up Bristol by sea, as this army intended to do by land. Thursday, August 21. General Fairfax and Lieutenant-General Cromwell went and viewed the town, which was now approached; appointed guards and quarters on the west side of the river, and quartered themselves at Kainsham that night, where divers lords sent for passes to come out of the city to go beyond sea, but were all denied. Friday 22. A general rendezvous of horse; all this day spent in setting guards on Somerset side, where the country men maintained a passage, the head quarters being this day removed to Hanham. Saturday 23. Fairfax and Cromwell employed the whole day in settling the quarters and guards on the other side Bristol. The cannon played this day from the great fort and Prior's-hill fort, but hurt none but one dragoon, who had his thigh shot off. The Royalists also sallied out with a party of horse, but were drove back, when Sir Richard Crane was mortally wounded. The head quarters removed to Stapleton. August 24. the Lord's day. A sally out of the sally port near Prior's-hill fort, repulsed by Colonel Rainborough's brigade and horse. Tuesday 26. A third sally on Somerset side on a post of Colonel Welden's, at Bedminster, 10 killed and as many wounded. Sir Bernard Ashley, a royalist, taken and died a few days after

after of his wounds. Thursday 28. The fort of Portishead point, after four days siege, taken with 6 pieces of ordnance, by which means a communication was laid open with the ships in Kingroad. Friday 29. A fast observed by the army to seek God for a blessing upon the designs against Bristol: Mr. Del and Mr. Peters kept the day at the head quarters, but were disturbed by a sally about noon upon the quarters at Lawford's-gate; 3 or 4 soldiers taken. Sunday, August 31. Captain Moulton from Kingroad held a meeting with the General, and offered to assist storming the city with his seamen. Monday, September 1. Prince Rupert with 1000 horse and 600 foot sallied out about twelve at noon the sixth time in full career upon our horse guards with much fierceness, and were made to retreat very hastily; Captain Guiliams killed and Colonel Okey taken by Prince Rupert. Orders given to view the line and works, and the soldiers to make faggots and all fitting preparations for a storm. September 2. After a council of war held, it was determined to storm Bristol; and the manner was referred to a committee of the colonels to present in writing to the General the next morning, to be debated in a general council of war, which was agreed to be in the following manner: Colonel Welden with his brigade of four regiments were to storm in three places on Somerset side, 200 men in the middle, 200 on each side as forlorn hopes to begin the storm; 20 ladders to each place, two men to carry each a ladder at 5s. apiece, two serjeants to attend each ladder at 20s. each; each of the musquetry that followed the ladder to carry a faggot, a serjeant to command them, and to have the same reward; 12 files of men with fire-arms and pikes to follow the ladders to each place where the storm was to be, those to be commanded each by a captain and lieutenant, the latter to go before with 5 files, the captain to second him with the other 7; the 200 men appointed to second the storm to furnish each party of them 20 pioneers who were to march in their rear, the 200 men commanded each by a field officer, and the pioneers each by a serjeant; (those pioneers were to throw down the line to make way for the horse,) the party that was to make good the line to possess the guns and turn them; a gentleman of the ordnance, gunners and mattrasses to enter with the parties, the drawbridge to be let down, two regiments and a half to storm in after the foot, if way was made: much after this manner was the general brigade under Colonel Montague's command, consisting of the General's, Col. Montague's, Col. Pickering's, and Sir Hardresse Waller's regiments to storm on both sides Lawford's-Gate, both to the river Avon and the lesser river From, the bridge over From to be made good against horse with pikes or to break it down. Colonel Rainsborough's brigade, consisting of his own, Major
General

General Skippon's, Col. Hammond's, Col. Birche's, and Lieut. Col. Pride's regiments to storm on this side the Froom, beginning at the right hand of the Sallyport up to Prior's-hill fort, and to storm the fort itself as the main business: 200 of this brigade to go up in boats with the seamen to storm Waterfort (if it could be attempted:) one regiment of horse and a regiment of foot to be moving up and down in the closes before the royal fort and to ply hard upon it to alarm it, with a field officer to command them: the regiment of dragoons with two regiments of horse to carry ladders with them and to attempt the line of works by Clifton and Washington's breach.

Such was the manner of the storm agreed on, though alterable according to circumstances; the cannon baskets were ordered to be filled, seamen and boats sent for, and September 4th being Thursday, the weather which had been so extream wet before, began to alter, and the great guns began to play from the new battery against Prior's-fort; summons were also sent to Prince Rupert.

To Prince R U P E R T.

S I R,

"FOR the service of the Parliament I have brought their own army before the city of Bristol and do summon you in their names to render it, with all the forts belonging to the same, into my hands for their use. — Having used this plain language, as the business requires, I wish it may be as effectual with you as it is satisfactory to myself, that I do a little expostulate with you about the surrender of the same; which I confess is a way not common and which I should not have so used, but in respect to a person of such sort, and in such a place: I take into consideration your royal birth and relation to the crown of England, your honour, courage, all the virtues of your person, and the strength of that place, which you may think yourself bound and able to maintain. Sir, the crown of England is and will be where it ought to be, we fight to maintain it there; but the King misled by evil counsellors, or through a seduced heart has left his parliament and people, (under God the best assurance of his crown and family:) the maintaining of this schism is the ground of this unhappy war on your part; and what sad effect it hath produced in the three kingdoms is visible to all men. To maintain the rights of the crown and kingdom jointly; the principal part is, that the King in supreme acts concerning the whole state, is not to be advised by men of whom the law takes no notice but by the parliament, the great council of the nation, in whom (as much as man is capable of) he hears all his people as it were at once advising him, and in which multitude of counsellors lies his safety and his people's interest.

interest. To set him right in this hath been the constant and faithful endeavour of the parliament; and to bring those wicked instruments to justice that have misled him is a principal ground of our fighting. Sir, if God makes this clear to you, as he hath to us, I doubt not but he will give you an heart to deliver this place, notwithstanding all the considerations of honor, courage and fidelity, &c. because their consistency and use in the present business depends upon the right or wrongfulness of what has been said. And if upon such conviction you should surrender the city, and save the loss of blood and hazard of spoiling such a place, it would be an act glorious in itself, and joyful to us, for the restoring you to the endeared affections of the parliament and people of England, the truest friends to your family it hath in the world. But if this be hid from your eyes, and so great, so famous, and so ancient a city, so full of people be exposed through your wilfulness in putting us to force the same to the ruin and extremity of war, (which yet we shall in that case as much as possible endeavour to prevent,) then I appeal to the righteous God to judge between you and us, and to requite the wrong; and let all England judge whether to burn its towns, and ruin its cities, and destroy its people, be a good requital from a person of your family which have had the prayers, tears, money, and blood of this parliament; and, if you look on either as now divided, both ever had the same party in parliament, and among the people most zealous for their assistance and restitution; which you now oppose and seek to destroy; and whose constant grief hath been that their desire to serve your family hath been ever hindered, and made fruitless by that same party about his Majesty whose councils you act and whose interest you pursue in this unnatural war. I expect your speedy answer to this summons by the return of the bearer this evening, and am,

Your Highness humble servant,

Sept. 4, 1645.

THO. FAIRFAX."

A N S W E R.

S I R,

"I Received your's by your trumpet, and desire to know if you will give me leave to send a messenger to the King, to know his pleasure therein. I am,

Your servant,

RUPERT."

R E P L Y.

S I R,

"YOUR overture of sending to his Majesty to know his pleasure, I cannot give way to, nor admit of so much delay as that would require; wherefore

F F

thereby

thereby I cannot but understand your intention intimated not to surrender without his Majesty's consent, yet, because it is but implicit, I send again to know more clearly if you have any more positive answer to give from yourself, which I desire to receive; and which I desire may be such as may render me capable to approve myself,

Your Highness humble servant,

Sept. 5, 1645.

THO. FAIRFAX."

Whereupon his Highness after a council of war was held sent 17 propositions, that during a treaty he might strengthen the works within, and hear from the King; and had he consented to the demands, a confirmation by parliament would have been required, which protraction of time was designed for the advantage of the besieged. In answer to this Sir Thomas Fairfax proposed three commissioners, Colonels Ireton, Fleetwood and Pickering, to conclude a treaty, provided such treaty be ended by nine o'clock that night, dated 7th Sept. 1645. But the Prince still willing to delay desires him to set down his doubts and exceptions to the propositions in writing to which he would give a speedy answer, dated the same day, which occasioned another letter with 20 propositions from Fairfax, asserting his tenderness of the city and of the effusion of blood, &c. dated Stapleton 8th Sept. 1645. In this Prince Rupert finding omissions in several clauses, and some wholly left out, sent a letter the same day, insisting upon all the forts and lines, except the castle, to be sleighted and demolished, when he would send commissioners to regulate and settle things between them; but Fairfax in a letter dated the 9th Sept. 1645, insisted on his propositions and would admit of no farther delay, to which his Highness would not consent.

The 6th of September every thing prepared for the storm; the General in the field and the soldiers ready with faggots at their backs, but the business deferred till Monday morning two o'clock. The 9th Sept. trumpet returning with unsatisfactory answer, at twelve o'clock at night the General was in the field to give orders about drawing out the men and managing the storm the next morning. The 10th Sept. at two in the morning the signal was given to fall on at one instant round the city by setting fire to some straw and faggots at the top of an hill, and the firing four great guns against Prior's-hill fort, from the place the General was to reside at all the time of the storm, being an old small farm-house opposite the Prior's-hill fort, conveniently lying upon any alarm. — The signal being given, the storm immediately began round the city and was terrible to the beholders. Colonel Montague and Col. Pickering
with

with their regiments at Lawford's-gate entered speedily, and recovered 22 great guns, and took many prisoners in the works; Major Desborough advancing with the horse after them, having the command of the General's regiment, and part of Col. Groves's. Sir Hardresse Waller's, and the General's regiments, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, entered between Lawford's-gate and the river Froom; Col. Rainsborough's and Col. Hamond's regiments entered near Prior's fort; Major General Skippon's and Col. Birche's entered nearer to the river Froom; and the regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Pride was divided, part assigned to the service of Prior's fort, and the rest to alarm the great fort, and afterwards they took a little fort of Welchmen. The seamen that were at first designed to storm by water (the tide failing) assisted in storming the line and works, the horse that entered here, (besides the forlorn hope,) so valiantly led on by Capt. Ireton, were in several parties commanded by Major Bethel, Major Alford, and Adjutant General Flemming, being of Colonel Whalye's, Col. Riche's and part of Col. Graves's regiments. And after the line was broke down by the pioneers and a gap made in the same, the horse with undaunted courage entered, and within the line met with a party of the enemy's horse, put them to a retreat, mortally wounded Col. Taylor (formerly member of the house of commons) of which wounds he died, and took divers prisoners. This so disheartened their horse (perceiving withal our foot to be master of the line and their men beaten off) that they never came on again to give one charge, but retreated and stood in a body under the favor of the great fort and Colston's fort. In the mean while Prior's-hill fort obstinately held out, playing fiercely with great and small shot on our men for two hours after the line was entered; our men all that time in like manner plying them hard with musket shot in at the port-holes, until they brought up ladders to the fort; but it being an high work many of the ladders proved too short, through which fault some that got up were beaten down again. Notwithstanding, this disheartened them not, but up they went again upon the greatest danger and disadvantage, some at last creeping in at the port-holes, and others got on the top of the works; Capt. Lagoe of Lieutenant Colonel Pride's regiment being the first man that laid hold on the colours, and in the end we forced the enemy within to run below into the inner rooms of the work, hoping to receive quarter, but our soldiers were so little prepared to shew mercy, by the opposition that they met withal in the storm, and the refusal of quarter when it was offered, that they put to the sword the commander (one Major Price who was a Welchman) and almost all the officers, soldiers and others in the

fort, except a few which at the entreaty of our officers were spared their lives. Most happy it was that the storm began so early, for otherwise had the enemy had daylight when we first entered, we could not have attempted Prior's-hill fort, in regard the great fort and Clifton's fort on the one side and the castle on the other might have cut off all our men as fast as they had been drawn up, but being in the dark they durst not fire for fear of killing their own men, their horse during the storm being drawn up between the great fort and Clifton's fort: but on Somerset side success was not answerable to this on this side, our forces there being put to a retreat though they went on with much courage; the works on that side were so high that the ladders could not near reach them, and the approach unto the line of great disadvantage. Left during the storm the Prince (in case he saw the town like to be lost) should endeavour to escape with his horse, to prevent the same Commissary General Ireton's, Col. Butler's and Col. Fleetwood's regiments of horse were appointed to be in a moving body upon Durdham-Down, that place being the most open way and most likely for the Prince to escape by; besides part of those horse did alarm that side of the line and the great fort towards Durdham-Down and Clifton during the storm; as likewise to secure the foot, Col. Okey's dragoons alarming Brandon-Hill fort and the line towards Clifton. — About four hours after taking Prior's-hill fort a trumpet came from the Prince to desire a parley, which the General embraced on account of the city's being set on fire in several places, and on condition of the fire being immediately stopt: which was done accordingly, and so the treaty proceeded, and by seven at night was concluded according to articles.

I. That his Highness Prince Rupert, and all noblemen, officers, gentlemen, and soldiers, and all other persons whatsoever, now residing in the city of Bristol, and in the castle and forts thereof, shall march out of the said city and castle and forts with colours, drums, pikes, bag and baggage. The Prince his Highness, gentlemen, and officers in commission, with their horse and arms, and their servants with their horse and swords, and common soldiers with their swords, the Prince's life guard of horse with their horse and arms, and 250 horse besides to be disposed of by the Prince, and his life guard of firelocks with their arms, with each of them a pound of powder and a proportion of bullet; and that none of the persons, who are to march out under this article, are to be plundered, searched, or molested.

II. That such officers and soldiers that shall be left sick or wounded, in the city, castle, or forts, shall have liberty to stay till their recovery, and then have safe conduct to go to his Majesty, and in the interim to be protected.

III.

III. That such persons abovementioned, who are to march away, shall have sufficient convoy provided for them to such garrison of the King's as the Prince shall name, not exceeding fifty miles from Bristol, and shall have eight days allowed them to march thither, and shall have free quarter by the way, and shall have two officers to attend them for their accommodation, and twenty waggons for their baggage, if they shall have occasion to use them.

IV. That all the citizens of Bristol, and all noblemen, gentlemen, clergymen, and all other persons, residing in the said city and suburbs, shall be saved from all plunder and violence, and be secured in their persons and estates from the violence of the soldiers, and shall enjoy those rights and privileges, which other subjects enjoy under the protection and obedience to the Parliament.

V. That in consideration thereof, the city of Bristol, with the castle and all other forts and fortifications thereof, and all the ordnance, arms, ammunition, and all other furniture and provisions of war, excepting what is before allowed, shall be delivered up to Sir Thomas Fairfax to-morrow, being Thursday, the 11th of this instant September, by one o'clock in the afternoon, without any diminution or embezzlement, his Highness Prince Rupert then naming to what army or garrison of the King's he will march.

VI. That none of the army, who are to march out on this agreement, shall plunder, hurt, or spoil the town, or any person in it, or carry any thing but what is properly his own.

VII. That upon these articles being signed, Colonel Okey and all persons now in prison in the city of Bristol and the castle and forts of the same shall immediately be set at liberty.

VIII. That sufficient hostages be given to Sir Thomas Fairfax, such as he shall approve this night, who are to remain with him until the city be delivered.

IX. That neither the convoy or officers sent with the Prince shall receive any injury in their going and coming back, and shall have seven days allowance for their return.

X. That upon delivering of the town, sufficient hostages be given for the performance of the articles on both parts.

Signed by us, Commissioners on the behalf of his Highness Prince Rupert,

JOHN MYNNE,

W. TILLYER,

W. VAVASOUR.

Signed by us, Commissioners on the behalf of Sir Thomas Fairfax,

ED. MONTAGUE,

T. RAINSBOROUGH,

JOHN PICKERING.

While

While Sir Thomas Fairfax and the Lieutenant-General Oliver Cromwell were both sitting on the top of Prior's-hill fort, a piece of ordnance was shot off thither from the castle, and the bullet grazed upon the fort within two hands breadth of them, but did them no hurt at all; so narrow was their escape.

In the storm several of the Parliament officers both horse and foot were killed, and many wounded. Major Bethel was shot entering the line, of which wound he shortly after died, &c.

Thursday, September 11, Prince Rupert marched out of the great fort, as also many ladies and gentlemen. Oliver Cromwell, Lieutenant-General, sent the Parliament a long account of the taking Bristol, calling it "the work of the Lord, which none but an Atheist could deny," and that "140 cannon were taken, 100 barrels of powder, &c. with the loss of only about 200 men."

This was a very important acquisition to the rebel leaders both in the army and the Parliament, and as great a loss and injury to the King's affairs.

Prince Rupert incurred a severe censure from the King, and though he was solicited to enter into treaty by his officers and a council of war, who thought the posts and city not tenable any longer; yet the King's friends were so dissatisfied with the Prince's behaviour, that it drew from him a public vindication of his conduct; and as the former account is the representation of the rebels, it will be proper to subjoin Prince Rupert's own account of the matter, extracted from a pamphlet called, a Declaration and Narrative of the State of the Garrison and of the City of Bristol, published 1645.

"On Prince Rupert's coming to Bristol, the constitution of the garrison had by the establishment contributions settled for 3600 men for that and the subordinate garrisons, as Nunney, Portsend Point, &c. but on his exacter enquiry, the presidary soldiers which went for 8 or 900 men were really in the judgment of honest and judicious persons betwixt 5 or 600 effective; the auxiliary and trained bands by interruption of trade and by the pestilence then raging there and by poverty and pressures laid upon them were reduced to 800, and the mariners betook themselves to other parts or the enemy. The commissioners intrusted for the contribution and support of the garrison abandoned the town upon the enemy's approach, and many considerable persons had leave to quit the town, which disheartened the rest. For securing the place his Highness drew in so many as to make 2800 men upon fight. But after the enemy approached, he could never draw up on the line 1500, and it was impossible to keep them from getting over the works, and many of those were new levied Welch and unexperienced men. The line to be defended was above four miles

miles in compass, the breast-work low and thin, the graff very narrow and of no depth, and by the opinion of all the colonels not tenable, on a brisk and vigorous assault. The great fort, which had the reputation of strength, lay open to Brandon-hill fort, which if taken would from its height with the cannon command the whole plain within it, and the want of water was not to be borne many days. For the like consideration of danger to the line from another part, his Highness built a reboubt without, which on that side prevented the enemy from erecting a battery, as likewise three others during the siege, and drew a line of 500 foot. After the misfortune which happened to Lord Goring's army, the loss of Bridgwater and Sherborn, and upon his Majesty's sudden recess out of Wales, the Prince conceiving it would be best for his Majesty's affairs to remain here, and that the enemy's designs would be for Bristol after their former successes, he gave orders for all inhabitants to victual themselves for six months; and upon strict survey there were 2500 families then remaining in the city, whereof 1500 through indigence and want could not provide for themselves. To supply this defect, 2000 bushels of corn were imported from Wales; and on the certain approach of the enemy, all the cattle thereabouts was ordered to be drove in, by parties commanded out for that purpose. The ammunition was scant, considering there were in the forts, castle, line, and streets, above 100 cannon mounted; the quantity of powder not exceeding 130 barrels, and at his Highness's coming there was not musket balls for three hours fight, wherefore he caused great quantities of lead to be cast into bullets; and the manufacture of match was quite down, and set up by his Highness during the siege.

These preparations made the colonels of posts to be consulted about the tenableness of the line; their judgment was, that notwithstanding the works and line were very defective, the circuit large, the soldiers few; yet if a general storm could be once repelled, the enemy would be discouraged from attempting a second time, and the season of the year might incommode the besiegers. — On which account they determined upon the best general defence to be made upon the whole, wherein all might share alike.

The line was generally three feet thick; the height five feet where highest.

The graff commonly six feet broad, seven at the widest; the depth in most parts four feet, five where deepest.

Between Prior-hill fort, Stoke's-croft-gate, and beyond the little river From towards Lawford's-gate, in which places the enemy entered, not five feet high.

The graff five feet broad, and that part of the line much decayed.

The

The ditch of the great fort on the right hand of the gate, before the face of the bulwark, was not four feet deep and eighteen broad ; so that horses did go up and down into it.

The highest work of the fort was not twelve feet high, the curtains but ten. Within one hundred feet of the fort there was a deep hollow way, where the enemy might lodge what troops he pleased, and might be in the graff before night ; and that part of the fort was minable.

Brandon-hill fort was about twelve feet above the level of the great fort, and that not being able to make long resistance, the enemy gaining it would command the other.

The hedges and ditches without the line were neither cut nor levelled, so that they lodged their men near our works securely at their first approach.

A general defence being fixed on, the colonels were all ordered to the several posts and forts upon the line, and his Highness being solicitous for securing the place, the enemy on the 22d of August appeared on Pile-hill, on the south side of the town, he sent a party of horse commanded by Sir Richard Crane (who in that action received his death's wound) to encounter them ; a little before that Bedminster was fired on intelligence that the enemy intended that night to quarter 2000 men in it, and notwithstanding the fire they drew thither and plied their small shot all night. August 23. The Prince caused a traverse or blind of earth to be made within the drawbridge at Temple-gate, and a battery raised in the Marsh for securing the river and scouring the fields beyond it. The enemy began some breast-works and a battery on the hill without Temple-gate, with a traverse across the way to hinder our sallies. — Instructions for delivering the city up to the Parliament, signed Thomas Fairfax and Oliver Cromwell, were privately sent to the citizens, August 25, 1645. Upon the intercepting these papers, his Highness caused several active and suspected persons to be restrained, which prevented the design, and by his personal presence prevented the great fort from surprisal ; and in the mean time to interrupt the enemy's working made several sallies, which all succeeded according to design. August 26. Soon after a storm being expected by the enemy's drawing together great bodies of horse and foot, his Highness double manned the line, but nothing followed. August 28. Five Parliament ships entered Kingroad, and forced Captain Broom who commanded the Tenth Whelpe to run up the Severn for security. August 29. The enemy was making a bridge over the Avon to conjoin their quarters. September 3. His Highness began a work or cutting off within the line by Lawford's-gate, when Sir Thomas Fairfax sent a summons to surrender.

The

The castle and great fort indeed might have held out some time, but no assistance from the west nor from the King was to be relied on, and the enemy could have blocked up the castle and advanced 12,000 men to have fought a battle if required, or else have secured themselves within the lines against all opposition — besides it appeared they were so absolutely masters of all the passes, and had so barricaded up the ways that a small force might have hindered now a great army. And at that time General Pointz so closely observed his Majesty's motions, that relief was very improbably to be expected, — and Col. Massey was upon the watch to intercept Lord Goring: and as the line was forced, Pryor's-hill fort an important place lost, the officer to whose trust it was committed deserting it, (who never since that time appeared and who was said to have been killed,) the city on resistance must have been exposed to the spoil and fury of the enemy, so many gallant men who had so long and faithfully served his Majesty (whose safeties his Highness conceived himself in honor obliged to preserve as dearly as his own) had been left to the slaughter and rage of a prevailing enemy, and the Scots being on the 8th of September at Gloucester, an intermediate place near which his Majesty must have marched to the relief of Bristol, cut off all hopes of succour from him.

At a council of war held at Newark the 18th of October 1645, Prince Rupert desiring to clear himself for the surrender of the city and garrison of Bristol, before Montague Earl of Lindsey lord chamberlain, Richard Earl of Cork, Jacob Lord Astley field marshal general, John Lord Bellasis captain of the horse guards, Charles Lord Gerrard, Sir Richard Willis, John Ashburnham Esq; treasurer at war, produced a narrative of the matter of facts during the siege, and the King was pleased to say, his said nephew was not guilty of the least want of courage or fidelity to him in the doing thereof, but withall believed he might have kept the castle and fort a longer time; the King having absolutely resolved to have drawn together all the forces he possibly could and to have hazarded his person for his relief, the design being then so laid that in all probability it would have succeeded; yet as the Prince did what was done by the advice of a council of war of that garrison, and could not have expected relief and had received no intimation from the King thereof, and had a tender regard for the preservation of so many worthy officers and soldiers that had so long and faithfully served the King, he on these reasons capitulated. — The King hearing a second time the whole matter the 21st of October, was pleased to declare that Prince Rupert was not guilty of any the least want of courage or fidelity to him, and the Lords gave the same

opinion on the point : Given at the court at Newark, the 21st Oct. 1645. — The forts, city and castle without any defacing thereof, with all arms, ammunition, &c. were delivered up Thursday the 11th of September 1645, by three o'clock in the afternoon.

The forts, city and castle being evacuated by the King's troops, the rebels found a great booty therein; 140 cannons, 100 barrels of gunpowder, provision in the royal fort (where at present the elegant seat of T. Tyndall, Esq; is built) sufficient to serve 150 men for 320 days, and the castle was victualled for near half so long, says a manuscript penes me. To increase the misfortunes of the times the plague broke out this year, of which died 3000 persons.

Philip Skippon who had been appointed governor of Bristol castle, was commissioned by the parliament in the year 1646 to carry 200000l. (which was half the price set upon the head of his Majesty Charles the 1st. by the Scots) into Scotland to induce them to deliver the King up into his enemies hands, which was accordingly done the 16th of February the same year.

This was the last keeper but one and governor of Bristol castle before its final demolition; he had been Major General on this occasion, of great skill and experience in military operations, which he had acquired abroad in foreign wars; and had it not been for this one man, neither the zeal or conduct of Fairfax, nor the brutal courage of Oliver Cromwell and his troops pushed on by a spirit of enthusiasm, would have succeeded in carrying the city against Prince Rupert, who was acknowledged to be a General of consummate abilities.

The castle and city being now reduced under the power of the parliament and its officers, it is a grievous unpleasing task to recite the several oppressions the citizens underwent; one would wish to throw a veil over such scenes of wanton cruelty, but historical truth obliges us to notice them here agreeable to the maxim, *ne quid falsi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat*. — History records these bad effects of party rage, and of false religious zeal and love of liberty carried beyond the bounds of law, as a lesson to posterity against ever committing such outrage against the common principles of humanity under the pretence of liberty, in the sacred name of religion, and under the mask of greater piety and reformation. — Besides the heavy contributions laid on the merchants and tradesmen loyalists, informers were encouraged by an act passed the 26th of March 1644, and committees appointed in several counties to enquire after the clergy and schoolmasters not well affected to the parliament government, and to place others of their own learned, able, godly and
fit

fit persons in their room and in possession of their churches.— Accordingly the standing committee for Bristol the 20th of February 1645-6, sequestered the Rev. Richard Towgood vicar of St. Nicholas, “for his great disaffection to the parliament of England and their proceedings,” for which he was committed to Bristol castle, where soon after the Rev. Mr. Richard Standfast rector of Christ Church, being also sequestered was confined. One Evans a preaching taylor was put into his living by the committee. The Rev. Mr. Peirce vicar of St. Philip’s was also sequestered, and one Edward Hancock, late a Butler to Sir George Horner knight, was put into his living, where he continued till the restoration of Charles the 2d. and being then removed he afterwards kept a public-house at Horfield, more agreeable to his former employment. The Rev. Mr. Brent vicar of Temple was also sequestered; and many orthodox clergy and others to the number of about 50 persons, were confined close prisoners in a dismal room in the castle, and there treated with a rigour and cruelty not to be described here — The use of the common prayer-book was by an ordinance of parliament in Oct. 1647, under penalty of fine and imprisonment for the third offence prohibited.

Let it with cool reflection be well considered, that from this polluted fountain of the rebellion 1641 have sprung the several divisions in religion among us :

Hâc fonte derivata clades in patriam populumque fluxit. HOR.

The churches themselves as well as the pastors did not escape the rage of these merciful and meek reformers; the organs were pulled down, surplices torn to pieces, tombs defaced, the church plate stolen. By an ordinance of the 8th of August 1643, and May following, made by the Lords and Commons, order was given to demolish all monuments of idolatry and superstition, as altars, crucifixes, images, representations of the Trinity, &c. but images, pictures, coats of arms in glass or stone set up for any monument of King or nobleman, or person not reputed a saint to be continued. Cromwell’s soldiers were bad judges of this distinction, they broke most of the curious painted glass, tore away the brass, iron and lead from many monuments and defaced the inscriptions, which is to be lamented now by all lovers of antiquities, the ruin they spread in all country churches has never been repaired to this day.

The church and state being at length in a manner subverted by the murder of the King, the government of the city and castle was given by the parliament to Mr. Adrian Scroop the last keeper, after which the royal arms and motto were every where thrown down and defaced in all public places in this city.

After Oliver Cromwell was proclaimed protector orders were given for demolishing the fortifications of the castle of Bristol, which was began the 3d of January 1655 to be dismantled; and in 1656 a new road was made into the county of Gloucester through the said castle: a gate was erected 1659 called castle gate, (in 1766 removed,) before this the common road was through Newgate into the county of Gloucester.

Since the demolition of the castle two handsome streets have been built on its site, Castle-street and Castle-green; on the castle orchard without the Sally-port have risen other streets, Queen-street, &c. And Cromwell's levelling orders have been so well executed that few traces of this venerable structure are now to be seen, which has made such distinguished figure in history, and been the subject of so much contention.

King Charles the 2d. in his several journies to conceal himself from his pursuers by the assistance of his faithful friends once passed through this city on horseback in disguise, riding before Mrs. Lane towards Leigh-manor house, drest like a country fellow before his mistress; where he lay concealed for some time and used to turn the spit in the kitchen by way of disguise: the block he sat on is preserved there to this day. — In passing through the city he could not resist an inclination of turning a little out of his way to take a view of the castle, the scene of so many interesting transactions.

In the year 1771, General Melvyl coming to Bristol, and having a great curiosity in tracing out the remains of ancient encampments and fortifications, examined the lines and entrenchments made round the city in the year 1643, the better to account for Prince Rupert whom he regarded as a great military genius, giving up the city. The author of this history gave him all the intelligence then in his power; but could have supplied him with better, had he received before a curious paper containing the several fortified posts on the line, with the number of ordnance at each, communicated to him by Edmund Turnor, Esq; of Panton house, Lincolnshire, whose ancestor * had a commission

* Sir Edmund Turnor was the youngest son of Christopher Turnor of Milton-Ernis, in the county of Bedford, Esq; and brother of Sir Christopher Turnor of Milton-Ernis, knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the time of Charles the 2d. — At the breaking out of the civil wars he engaged in the service of the crown, and was the 4th of December 20th of Charles 1st. with a salary of 13s. 4d. a day for himself, and 3s. 4d. each for three keepers of the stores, appointed Treasurer and Paymaster of the garrison there. The 10th of February 1645 he was appointed to the command of a troop of horse. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester 1651. — Anno Domini 1663 he received the honor of knighthood, and was appointed Surveyor General of the out-ports, and was one of the Farmers General of the customs. — In 1681 he served the office of High-sheriff for the county of Lincoln, where he had purchased a considerable property. — An account of his life and charities is published in Wilford's Lives of worthy persons, folio, 1741, pages 81 and 784. Likewise in Bishop Kennet's Case of impropriations.

million from Charles the 1st. in 1644, of Treasurer of the garrisons of Bristol, Bath, the town and castle of Berkeley, Nunny castle, Farley castle, and Portthead-point:

" At the Water fort were 7 ordnance, with a master-gunner, 17s. 6d. a mate, 14s. and 3 gunners, each 10s. per week." This fort was at the point of Brandon-hill, next Limekiln-lane, fronting the Avon, above and opposite the glass-house.

" At Brandon-hill fort, ordnance 6, with a master-gunner, mate, and 2 gunners." On the very summit.

" At the great fort, ordnance 22, with a master-gunner, mate, and 6 gunners, and commissary of victuals." This was the Royal fort, now the site of the house and gardens of Thomas Tyndale, Esq;

" At the redoubt, ordnance 7, with a master-gunner, mate, and 2 gunners." This was since called Colston's mount, behind the Montague on Kingfdown.

" At Prior's-hill fort, ordnance 13, with a master-gunner, mate, and 3 gunners." This is since called Ninetree-hill.

" At Lawford's-gate, ordnance 7, with a master-gunner, mate, and 6 gunners."

" At Temple-gate, ordnance 14, with a master-gunner, mate, and 5 gunners."

" At Redcliff-gate, ordnance 15, with a master-gunner, mate, and 4 gunners."

" At the Castle and Newgate, ordnance 16, with a master-gunner, mate, 11 gunners, and commissary of victuals, at 1l. 10s. per week."

" At Froom-gate and Pithay-gate, ordnance 2, with 2 gunners."

This clearly shews where the strongest fortifications were ; but there are no traces of the line farther than Prior's-hill, by any marks on the surface of the ground ; for descending the hill from Prior's-hill fort you get into low ground, which has been filled up or built upon since that time, though the line it appears extended across by the city pest-house or lodge over the Froom to Lawford's-gate, thence across the Avon to Tower Hartz and to Temple-gate, and to Redcliff-gate after the Borough-wall unto the river side, where it ended.

C H A P. VIII.

*Of the ABBY of St. AUGUSTIN, BRISTOL; or Monastery of Black
Regular Canons of the Order of St. VICTOR.*

THE Monks, who were the early writers, make little mention of Bristol; a place of traffick, a trading town, chiefly intent on maintaining themselves in security, and defending their habitations from any foreign invader in their well-chosen retreat, was not deemed worthy of being celebrated in their writings. Here were no religious houses then erected, no superb monasteries endowed, to entitle it to their notice. This state of the city is well described in the following little poem, said by Chatterton to be translated by Rowley, "as nie as Englyshe wyll serve, from the original, written by Abbot John, who was ynductyd 20 yeares, and dyd act as abbatt 9 yeares before hys induction for Phillip then abbatt: he dyed yn M.C.C.XV. beyng buried in his albe in the mynster."

With *daitive steppe Religyon dyghte in greie,
Her face of doleful hue,

Swyfte as a takel † thro'we bryght heav'n tooke her waie,
And ofte and ere anon dyd saie

"Aiè! me! what shall I doe;

"See Brystoe citie, whyche I nowæ doe kenne,

"Aryfyng to mie view,

"Thycke throng'd wythe soldyers and wythe traffyck-menne;

"Butte saynctes I seen few."

Fytz-Hardyng rose! — he rose lyke bryghte sonne in the morne,

"Faire dame adryne thein eyne,

"Let alle thie greefe bee myne,

For I wylle rere thee uppe a Mynster hie;

"The toppe whereof shall reech ynto the skie;

"Ande wyll a Monke be shorne;"

Thenne dyd the dame replie,

"I shall ne be forelourne;

"Here wyll I take a cherysaunied restle,

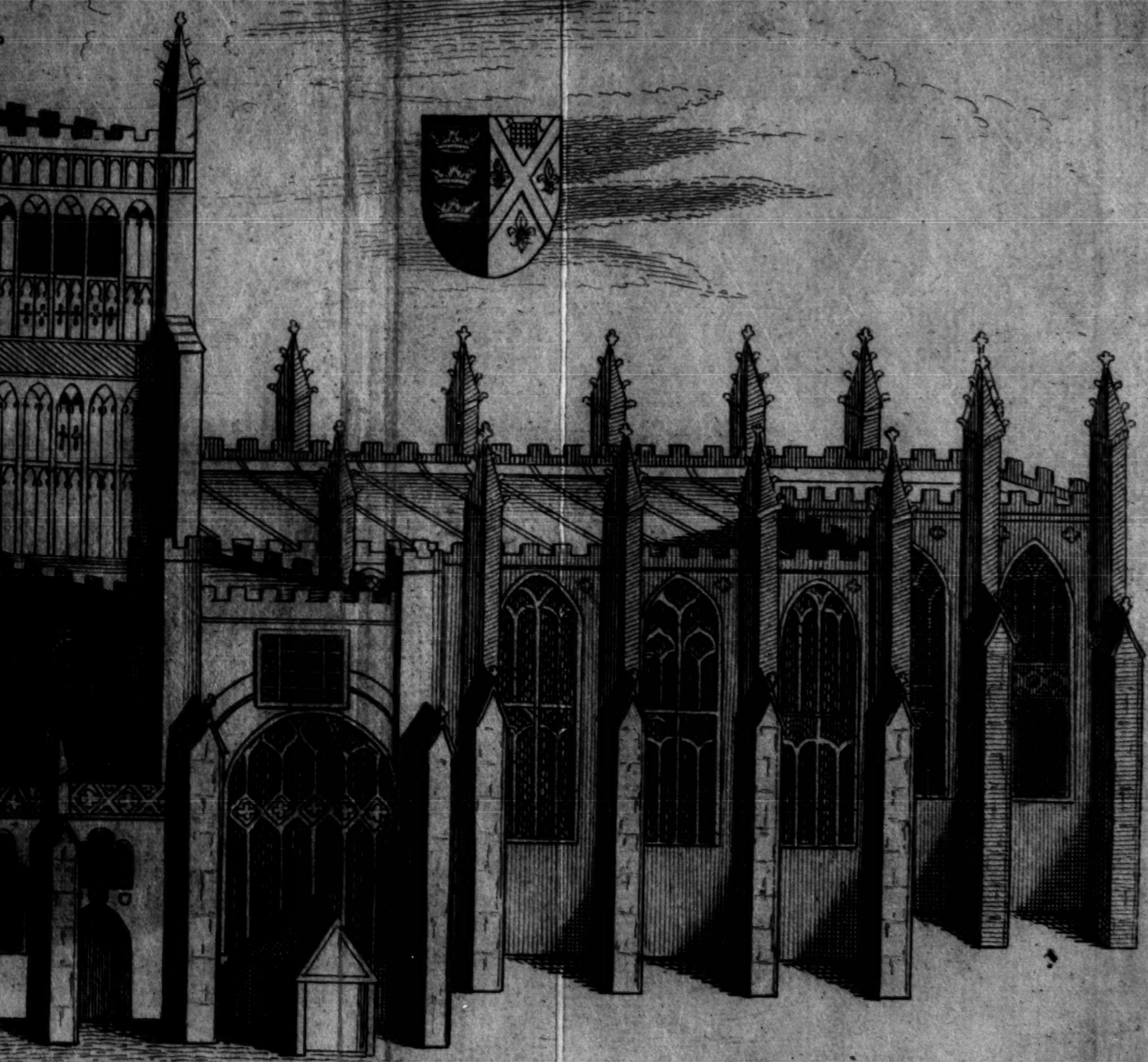
"And spend mie daies upon Fytz-Hardynges breste."

As

* Perhaps haitive, or haistiff, hasty, from the French haity, hasty. † Arrow.



The Monastery-of
Now the Cathedral-Church of



2 S^T. AUGUSTINE,
of the holy Trinity.

As soon as Bristol became the seat of religion and a monastery was built there and endowed, it makes some figure in the monastic histories, became the subject of their pens, and is occasionally celebrated in their writings, as much as other places. This monastery of St. Augustin began to be erected in the year 1140; and it appears, that it was success in trade by which Hardyng accumulated such a fortune here as to enable the son to build and to procure the royal favour to endow this abby.

It was built on a rising ground, with a delightful prospect of the hills around in the north-west suburb of the city and in the manor of Billefwick. The area of the buildings appropriated for the abbot and his monks was very large and extensive, as by the rule of St. Augustin, to whom it was dedicated, they were to live here together in common. The walls and part of the large refectory or dining room now converted into a prebendal house, the abbot's house now partly rebuilt and made a palace for the Bishop's residence, two sides of the cloisters with a curious chapter-house, and some old beautiful arches and gate-ways, are still to be seen. These with the church evidently demonstrate the whole to have been once a very spacious and magnificent monastery. William of Worcester, p. 188. says, "Sanctuarium locum Sancti Augustini, &c." "The sanctuary-place of St. Augustin from the east, where is the entrance of the sanctuary, unto the farthest gate for entering the court of the abbot, from the offices, houses, and granaries of the bakers, brewers, stable-keepers, of my lords the abbots, &c. contains 360 steps, as you go by the church of St. Augustin. The breadth of the sanctuary from the gate aforementioned to entering the lane called Frog-lane contains 240 steps. The breadth or distance of the place from the west part of the gate of the Gauntes to the gate of the entrance of the church of the abby of St. Augustin contains across 180 feet. From this it appears it was of large extent. Leland (Itin. vol. v. p. 60.) mentions, "St. Augustine's blak chanons, extra mœnia."

In the reign of King Stephen there lived in Bristol one Harding, a rich merchant, said in some manuscripts to have dwelt in Baldwin's-street, and that he was a younger son or grandson of a King of Denmark: the inscription over the college gate-house calls him, "filius regis Daciæ." Others say he was the son of Walburga, sister of Ednothus the good friend of Harold of an ancient and noble family of the Saxons, eminent in the days of Edward the Confessor, who married a daughter of the King of Denmark named Livida. Leland says, "Hardingus ex profapiâ, &c." "Harding was sprung of the royal race of the kingdom of Denmark in the time of William the Conqueror, and inhabited Bristol in the year of our Lord 1069, made afterwards Lord of Berkeley."

Berkeley." Abbot Newland's pedigree in Berkeley castle mentions him, "as descended of the royal line of the Kings of Denmark and the youngest son; and accompanying Duke William from Normandy was at the battle of Hastings." And some say, that Harding's mother Godiva was sister to Robert Duke of Normandy's father. In the British Museum is an ancient pedigree, which gives the following account, vide No. 1196 and 1178, fol. 123, 124. "Hardinge, Dane and inhabitant and mayor of Bristol (to whom Maud the Empress gave the castle, town, and barony of Berkeley) bore for arms gules a chevron argent, was of the line of the King of Denmark, and was of great wealth and possessions in both the counties of Gloucester and Somerset; he married Lyvida, a noble woman, and had by her issue three sons and two daughters, his eldest son was Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley by gift of Henry 2d. This Robert used to seal with his father's arms alone, also with the figure of a man armed on horseback, which his son Maurice also some time used. Jordayn, the third brother of the said Robert and uncle to Maurice, sealed his deeds with an impression only of two lions endorsed without any shield; and Helena only sister of Lord Maurice married Robert, son and heir of Lord Dursley."

The following verses of the old monkish poet, Robert of Gloucester, gives some account of Hardyng.

A burgeys of Bristow tho' Robert Hardyng
 For grete tresour and richeffe so well was wyth the kyng,
 That he yast him and his heires the noble barony
 That so ryche is of Berkely, with all the seignorie;
 And thulke Robert Hardyng arered futh, I wys
 An abbey at Bristow of St. Austyn that is,
 Syr Rychard le Fitzroy of whome we spake before,
 Gentleman he was inough, tho' he were last ybore;
 For the Erles daughter of Warren his good moder was,
 And her fader King John, that begat a perchas,
 Sir Morris of Berkly wedded futh bycas
 His daughter, and begat on her the good Knyght Sir Thomas.

All accounts agree of Hardyng's immense riches and large possessions, of his holding Wheatenhurst in Gloucestershire, of Earl Brietric in mortgage, and of his dying 16th Henry 1st. 1116, at Bristol, where he had been mayor or governor. He is expressly called mayor of Bristol in Dr. Cox Macro's manuscripts. Cambden says, "he was of the blood royal of Denmark and an alderman of Bristol." He had a son Robert Fitzharding: Leland says in v. 6. 43,

"Anno

"Anno 1135, Robertus filius Hardyngi &c." i. e. Robert son of Hardyng begat of Eva his wife four sons, Maurice de Berkly, Robert de Were, Nicolas de Tickenham, Thomas Archdeacon of Worcester; and that the monastery was founded the 3d ides of April 1148." And in v. 6. Itin. p. 50. he says "they bare not fyrste the name of Barkelye but Fitzharding, whereof one named Robert was a nobleman, and in proceffe the Fitzhardynges married with the heirs general of Dursley, and the name was taken of them and continued." And in his Collect. v. 2. p. 912, he says "Thomas was son and heyr of Robert Fitzhardynge, which Robert was sonne and heyre to the younger brother of the Kinge of Denmark: which Robert in time of King William the Conqueror, inhabited Brightestow and there foundid the pryorie of St. Augustine." This Robert Fitzharding was of great aceount with Robert Earl of Glocester, and joined him with all his interest in behalf of Maud the Empress and her son Henry the 2d. the only heir to the crown from Henry the 1st. against King Stephen, who had usurped it. Bristol and its castle being in the hands of her brother Robert Earl of Glocester and esteemed a place of strength and refuge for Maud the Empress, she placed her son here to school among the chief mens sons of the town: and as Baker in his Chronicle records it "he was brought into England by his uncle Robert in 1141, and was put to school being then nine years old at Bristol under the tuition of one Mathews, where he remained four years." Here he grew much delighted with Robert Fitzhardyng, which friendship and affection begun in their tender years and schoolboy days left such an impressiion on their minds, as was not to be effaced, when both were advanced to a riper age, so that Henry when he came to the crown knighted this Robert Fitzharding, then mayor or governor of Bristol after his father, and made him heir of the Berkley estate of Roger Lord of Berkley and Dursley, confiscated for adhering to King Stephen against his mother Maud, and in recompence of his father Harding's supplies of money in supporting her cause, and in memory of the son's friendship and acquaintance in their younger years, he made him the first Lord of Berkley, from whom the present Lord Berkley is lineally descended. — He granted him also the manor of Bitton with lands in Berkley of 100l. yearly value. Leland in Collect. v. 2. p. 912 says "for as much as Roger Lord of Berkley and Dursley had but a doughter caullid Eva and was married to the bloude of the Fitzhardynges (at this tyme I am not certain whether Eva was married to Robert Fitzhardynge or Thomas his son,) but because that Eva was heir of Roger Lord of Berklie and Dursley because of the inheritaunce by his wife Eva, the name of Fitzhardynge was turned into

Berkley and so did continue." Others say, Alice Lord Dursley's daughter was married to Maurice Robert Fitzharding's son.

By Abbot John Newland's manuscript relating to the foundation of this monastery, it appears that Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley and prime founder of it deceased, a canon of the same, as is evident by his obit in their mortilage, which was yearly in the chapter-house in this sort rehearsed, viz. "This day deceased Robert Fitzharding canon, and our founder;" and the same is witnessed by the charter of his son Maurice, second Lord Berkeley in these words: "Be it known to all Christian men, that I Maurice son and heir of Sir Robert Fitzharding have granted and confirmed for the health of my soul and of all my ancestry, to the church of St. Austin by Bristol, the which my lord and father hath founded, all such things which my said father hath given and granted to the canons of the said church, viz. within Berkeley Hernefs, Almondsbury, Horfield, Ashelworth, and Cromhall, the which he gave unto them when he became and was a canon: the which Sir Robert died February 5, 1170, and was buried between the abbot's and prior's stall, and next to the abbot's stall entering in the choir, and Eva his wife was buried by him, who died the 12th of March following." He was 75 years old at his death. Maurice died the 16th of June, 1189, and was buried in the parish church of Brentford, and had issue Robert and Thomas both Lords of Berkeley, for that Thomas succeeded his brother Robert who died without issue, which said Robert Lord of Berkeley was first founder of the hospital of St. Catherine in Bedminster, and was brought up in his youth in the court of Henry 2d. his obit was celebrated yearly at the said hospital with great solemnity. (Vide chapter on Redcliff parish below.)

Sir Robert Fitzharding first Lord of Berkeley began the foundation of the abbey of St. Austin's in 1140, and built the church and all the offices in six years time; when Simon Bishop of Worcester, Robert Bishop of Exeter, Geoffry Bishop of Llandaff, and Gilbert Bishop of St. Asaph, dedicated the church of the said monastery, and then afterwards Simon Bishop of Worcester inducted six canons of the monastery of Wigmore, gathered and chosen by the said Sir Robert into his church and monastery, on Easter-day, April 11, 1148.

"For which good Lord Sir Robert our founder and dame Eva his wife these be the special things due for them, besides the general prayers continually done in divine service by day and by night: first a daily special prayer said for them and all other fundators and benefactors at the hour of seven in the morning, and also daily prayers by name in our chapter-house openly. Also they have other rites solemnly sung with ringing on the eve of their anniversary

fary and on the morrow commendations; the abbot for the founder, and the prior for the foundress, executing the divine service. On the morrow of the day of the anniversary one hundred poor men be refreshed, every one of them having a canon's loaf of bread called a myche and three herrings therewith, and amongst them all two bushels of pease: also another dole that day shall be given of money, cake, and loaves; the abbot having a cake price 4d. with two castles of bread and 4d. for wine; the prior, sub-prior, and almoner, every of them two cakes price 2d. each, with one cast of bread, and 2d. for wine; every secular servant of the household within the monastery to have a penny cake and a cast of bread; every frier within every house of the four orders of Bristol to have a loaf, and likewise every prisoner within the gaol of Newgate of Bristol a loaf: and all the rest of the bread undealt to be dealt at the gate of the said monastery among poor people, and every man taking part of this dole shall have forty day's pardon. And in the day of the anniversary of dame Eva his wife shall be dealt to fifty poor men fifty loaves called myches with three herrings apiece, and amongst them all a bushel of pease."

This Robert the founder for whom the monks had reason to pray by his deeds laid down upon the altar, endowed this monastery with the manors of Almondsbury, Horfield, Ashelworth, Cromehall, Cerney, Blackensford,* and divers lands in Erlingham in the county of Gloucester; and the manor of Leigh near Bedminster, and St. Catherine's near Portbury in the county of Somerset; Fifehead, in the county of Dorset; and the manor of Belliswick juxta Bristol, wherein the monastery is seated; and with the churches and advowsons of Tickenham and Portbury, in the county of Somerset, and the churches and advowsons of Berkeley, † Wotton, Bolnhall, Beverston, Ashelworth, and Almondsbury, and all other his churches and advowsons in the hundred of Berkeley with their chapels, in the county of Gloucester, and with divers houses in Bristol.

Second Robert, son of Robert Fitzharding, gave to this monastery the church of St. Nicholas in Bristol, ‡ divers messuages in the said town, and lands in Paulet, in the county of Somerset.

H H 2

First

* The manor of Blacksworth in 1746 consisted of eighteen messuages and land in copyhold, six in leasehold, the whole amounting to 647l. per annum, besides coal-works. Rownham-ferry, a part of it, then let at 100l. per annum.

† In the reign of Queen Anne, by act of parliament the Lord of Berkeley gave the rectory of Sutton Boninton, in the county of Nottingham, to the dean and chapter of Bristol, in exchange for the said Lord to have the presentation of Berkeley church.

‡ It is usual now for the Bishop to have his visitation-sermon there, probably from its being the first church in Bristol given to the monastery.

First Maurice, eldest brother to the above Robert, gave in dotem or towards the marriage portion of that monastery (as the deed calls it) two hides of land in Hinton, and one in Alkinton, in the parish of Berkeley, and the tithes of all pannage of his chases of Micklewood, Appleridge, Oakley, and Weak or Wotton parks, and pasture for so many oxen as will till a plow-land to feed with oxen, as pure and perpetual alms. He died the first of Richard 1st. 1189, and is buried at Brentford near London, out of some pique to the abbot of St. Augustine, who had offended him: vide the Dean's manuscript. This lord was the first that took upon him the name of Berkeley and lived there.

Third Robert Lord Berkeley, son of the above Maurice, confirmed all his father's and grandfather's grants to this monastery, and also gave to the said church all his houses, lands, and tenements within the walls of Bristol, which (as the deed expresth) were many and great. He also gave divers lands in Berkeley, Ham, Cowley, Nibley, and Hulmancot, in the county of Gloucester. This lord took up arms against King John, and with other nobles invited Lewis the French King's son into England, for which his estates were seized to the King's use. In the beginning of Henry 3d's. reign he was pardoned for a fine of 966l. He was a pious and good man, and built St. Catherine's hospital at Bedminster, at Brightbow, where now a glass-house is erected. — Also he gave about the year 1207 his fountain, called Huge Well, to the parishioners, &c. of St. Mary Redcliff in Bristol. He died the fourth of Henry 3d. 1220, and is buried in the north aisle of St. Augustine's monastery over against the high altar (in an arch lying) in a monk's coul, a usual fashion for great lords in those times; Julian and Lucy, his two wives, are buried near him: Lucy survived him, and afterward married Hugh de Gourney.

First Thomas Lord Berkeley, brother to the above Robert, also confirmed to the monastery all the donations of his ancestors by particular name, and likewise gave them divers lands in Berkeley, Cowley, and Hinton, in the county of Gloucester, also common of pasture for twenty-four oxen in Ham, and discharged all their lands in the hundred of Berkeley and Portbury from all service and earthly demands. He was also a great benefactor to St. Catherine's hospital nigh Bristol. He having offended King Henry 3d. was obliged to enter himself a Knight Templar, and so was honourably banished: he died in the 76th year of his age and in the 27th of Henry 3d's. reign, 1243, and lies buried in the south aisle of St. Augustin's, under the arch next the rood altar, where his wife was also buried. The Lords of Berkeley did bear in their arms a chevron only, till this Thomas charged his coat with ten crosses, which

which Sir John Prestwich very ingeniously supposes was given him for his great devotion to the church, and alluding to the ten Ave Mary prayers.

Second Maurice Lord Berkeley, son and heir to the above Thomas, confirmed to the abbot and convent all the lands which his ancestors had given them, and all other freeholds given them within his fee and lordship, and also gave them lands in Berkeley, Beverston, Wolgaston, and Erlingham, and common of pasture of ruther beasts and swine to feed in divers of his manors. By another deed he grants a common of pasture to them for twenty-four oxen, seven fows, and one boar with the breed of an year old, in Walmergaston, Ham, Lafrid, and Gorst. Maurice second Lord Berkeley married Isabel, daughter of Maurice de Creoun, a baron in Lincolnshire, by Isabel his wife, daughter of Hugh le Brun Earl of March by Isabel, widow to King John; so as that this elder Isabel Lady Berkeley was indeed on the mother's side neice to King Henry 3d.—Says Kennet in parochial antiquities.

Lord Maurice died in the 9th year of King Edward 1st. anno 1281, and lieth buried in the north aisle of this monastery, next to the altar of Sir Maurice. He died seized of the manors of Berkeley, Cam, Hinton, Cowley, and Alkington, and of Redcliff-street without Bristol, belonging to the manor of Bedminster.

Second Thomas Lord Berkeley, son of the above Maurice, was thirty years old at his father's death: he confirmed to the abbot and convent all the donations which his father and ancestors had given them, also directed that the lands given by them should be a manor within the hundred of Berkeley, and should be called the manor of Canonbury; and granted them a court leet with stocks, pillory, and tumbrel in the said manor, except in the town of Berkeley; also he restored to them their plate and vestments, which had been plundered from them in the barons wars, being of great value, as Abbot Newland particularly has set them down to the value of 32l. 3s. 4d. In consideration of his services in the wars, he had grant of the liberty to hunt the hare, fox, &c. in the King's forests of Mendip* and Kingwood. This Lord Thomas was a wise, prudent person; he kept two hundred attendants in his family. — The 15th of Edward 1st. 1287, a quo warranto was brought against him to set forth his claim of markets and fairs in the manor and hundred of Berkeley: he pleaded his grant from King Henry 2d. which was allowed. Also the abbot of St. Augustin was served with the same warrant, to set forth his title to court leets in Berkeley, which was allowed. This lord was at most battles in Edward the 1st's. reign. He was constable and general of a great army led into France, and

* Munedup or Moinedoppe in ancient records, many knolls or hillocks, where minerals have been dug. Mendip, in Somersetshire.

and was one of the plenipotentiaries to make the peace. Having taken the field twenty-eight times, at last he was taken prisoner at the fatal battle of Bannock's-Burrough in Scotland. He married Jane, daughter of William de Ferrers Earl of Derby. He died in the 76th year of his age and 14th of Edward 2d. 1321, and lies buried with Jane his wife in the arch between the vestry and upper end of the south aisle in this monastery: See the arms on the south side of his tomb in the vestry. He gave the friars minors and friars preachers of Gloucester and Bristol divers quarters of wheat out of his several granaries.

Third Maurice Lord Berkeley son and heir to the last Lord Thomas, also confirmed the gifts and grants of his ancestors to this monastery. This Lord had a child at 14 years old. He died a prisoner in Wallingford castle the 19th of Edward 2d. 1326, he was first buried there, but his body was afterwards removed to this monastery and is buried in the south aisle under the arch before the choir door, whereby appears the mistake of Grafton, who writes that King Edward 2d. was committed to the care of this Lord Maurice in Berkeley castle, whereas he died the King's prisoner six months before the King's imprisonment.

Thomas Lord Berkeley the third of that name, and son and heir to the last Lord Maurice, confirmed to the abbot and convent all the gifts and grants of his ancestors, by a general recital of all their benefactions; also he granted to them all estrays and comelyrs as by the bailiff of the said Lord should be found upon any of the said abbot's lands. This Lord Thomas is said to have been privy to the murder of King Edward the 2d. at Berkeley castle, but he got off on his trial; and Stowe clears him. He married Margaret daughter of Roger Mortimer Earl of March, whose arms in painted glass is in this church in the choir, (over the Codrington's monument.) He was buried in the church of Berkeley the 35th of Edward the 3d. 1361. It appears in Pryn's Abridgment of the Records of the Tower, that he was not guilty of the murder of King Edward, but that Thomas de Gornay and William de Ogle did it, while he lay sick at Bewdley. He was a great combatant, was at the battle of Poitiers and wounded therein, and built Beverston castle by the gains he acquired in the wars.—Wolstan v. 1. f. 126. The Lord Thomas de Berkelie with licence of King Edward 3d. founded a perpetual chauntry in the abbacy of St. Augustin, Bristol, and gave to William de Underlith chaplain and his successors chaplains, perpetually to celebrate every day divine offices in the aforesaid abbacy for his soul and the soul of Margaret formerly his wife, and for the souls of all the faithful, two messuages and 20s. rent, with their appertinances in Bristol, dated

dated the 25th April 1348. Witnesſes Maurice de Berkly his deareſt ſon, Tho. de Bradſtone.

Maurice Lord Berkeley the 4th of that name, was ſon and heir of the laſt Lord Thomas, he obtained a papal bull from Pope Urban the 2d. for 40 days pardon and releaſe of pennance enjoined to every one that ſhould in the church and monastery of St. Auſtin (being then ruinous and to be repaired) upon the feſtival days in the year hear maſs, or ſay kneeling three ave maries, or ſhould give any veſtment, ornament, gold, ſilver, books, chalifes, or any aids of charity to the repair of the ſaid church ; and whoever ſhould pray there for the life and good eſtate of the noble Lord Maurice de Berkeley and the noble Lady Elizabeth his wife and their children, or for any being in purgatory, ſhould be releaſed 40 days of the pennance enjoined them, which for the infallibility thereof is alſo under the ſeals of four cardinals yet extant. In the 40th of Edward the 3d. 1366, Lord Maurice gave to Wm. Winchcomb chaplain, a houſe before the gate of St. Auguſtin's monastery, with the garden and dove-houſe, (now the dean's houſe,) and ſeveral houſes in Broad-ſtreet in Briſtol, to pray in ſaid monastery for the ſoul of Margaret his mother, and lands in Portbury to pray alſo for his father and wife deceaſed. This Lord was a great warrior in Spain, he was married at eight years old to Elizabeth daughter of Hugh Lord Spencer, and died the 42d of Edward the 3d. 1368, of his wounds at the battle of Poiſters, and lieth with Margaret his mother who died the 5th of May 1337, (daughter to Roger Mortimer,) at the monastery of St. Auſtin in the great tomb under the arch between the old chapel of our Lady and the north aile, at the foot of the pulpit ſteps.

The fourth Maurice was ſucceeded by his ſon Thomas, the fourth of that name, who held the manors and hundred of Bedmiſter, Harecliff and Portbury, and the third part of Portiſhead *inter alia*; the manors of Limeridge-wood, Weſton in Gordan, and Walton: to him ſucceeded James his couſin and heir male, who dying 1404 was buried at St. Auguſtin's, Briſtol; he gave fix marks to find a prieſt to pray for his ſoul in that church.

William Lord Berkeley grand nephew to Thomas Lord Berkeley the fourth of that name, and ſon of Lord Maurice the fourth laſt-mentioned, gave to this monastery by deed dated the 4th of Henry the 7th. 1489, ſeveral houſes in London, and lands in the counties of Worceſter and Buckingham, in recompence whereof the abbot and convent accepted this Lord Marquis and the Lady Anne his wife (who was daughter of John Fienes Lord Dacres) into their ſpiritual ſociety and fraternity, and admitted them to the participation of all the benefits, works and merits wrought by him, as well in maſſes, hours, prayers,

prayers, watchings, fastings, discipline and hospitalities, as in alms or other benefices which hereafter shall be done or had in their monastery, with the addition from their special grace and bounty, viz. that when the deaths of this Lord and his wife shall be made known to them, there shall be as much said and done for their souls, as for the brothers and sisters and other benefactors of the said place: this William stood in such favour with King Edward the 4th. that he had a grant of 100 marks per annum from the King during his life, to be received out of the customs of the port of Bristol. He was the first of this family created a Marquis, the 4th of King Henry the 7th. 1489. He was seized at one time in his own right and in the right of his wife, of above 120 manors, but spent a great part of them to purchase honours, pardons and protections against his enemies. He also took occasion to except against his brother Maurice the fifth as his successor, because he had not married with a person of honourable parentage, (she being Isabella daughter to Philip Mead Esq; descended from the Meads of Meads-place in Fayland, in the parish of Wraxall, Somerset, then alderman of Bristol,) and gave all his lands from him, also he conveyed over the honour of Berkeley to King Henry the 7th. and to the heirs male of his body, by which the baronage was held from his family, it being appendant to the castle; the crown having kept possession of the honour of Berkeley and many estates belonging to these Lords until the death of Edward the 6th. being 61 years, when they returned to this family again. He died without issue the 7th of Henry 7th. 1491, and was buried at the Augustin Friery in London, which he had repaired or new-built.

Fifth Maurice brother to William, being disinherited, busied himself in regaining his inheritance, in which he in part succeeded, but died the 22d of Henry the 7th.

Maurice Lord Berkeley the sixth of this name was nephew to the last William, or son to the last Maurice, he built a chapel in this monastery, which is railed in, (where the family of Newtons are buried,) intending therein to be buried, but dying in Calais in the 15th of King Henry the 8th. 1523, was buried in Trinity chapel there. By his will he gave to this monastery his best pair of vestments with all the furniture, and 20l. in money, one gilt cross with all the reliqs enclosed in the same, with all his best gilt cosets, also one pair of white vestments with all their furniture, and the best pair of black vestments with his best missal, and a good chalice, these are the words of his will. He was high-sheriff of Gloucestershire the 7th of Henry the 8th. 1516; he after was governor of Calais and made a baron by writ the 14th of Henry the 8th. 1523. His wife was Katherine daughter of Sir William Berkeley of Stoke-Giffard; he

he had no issue, but one bastard son, who is the only unlawful son heard of in this family.

Thomas Lord Berkeley the fifth of that name and brother to the above Lord Maurice, was constable of Berkeley castle which was then in the crown, he died the 24th of Henry the 8th. 1532, and lieth buried in this monastery under a fine tomb with Elenor his first wife: this is said to be the last Lord Berkeley that was buried in this monastery. Sir Robert Atkyns says that this Lord married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Marmaduke Constable of Yorkshire, and his last wife was Cicely widow of Richard Rowden of Gloucester Esq. Dugdale says that by his will he ordained that his body should be buried without great pomp or pride in the parish church of Mangotsfield, near to the place where he used to kneel under the partition between the choir and his own chapel; and within a quarter of a year after to be brought to St. Austin's, Bristol, and there buried near unto his first wife.

Thus to this noble family was this monastery beholden for its liberal endowment as well as for its first foundation and erection: each of them distinguished himself as the loving father and patron of this church: they nursed it as it were from its cradle, supported it in its infancy, and still continued to protect and enrich it in the riper years of its maturity; and were doubtless men of as great piety and extensive charity as they were many of them of the greatest abilities both in the cabinet and in the field: they gave such large estates to monasteries from a pious zeal and religious motive, and endowed them with so many benefices, that the family is said to have had but one rectory to which they might present a chaplain, which was Sutton Bonington, and that afterwards was exchanged for the vicarage of Berkeley near their castle.

Besides the benefactions bestowed on this monastery by this noble family at different times as before related, it can also boast of many Kings and Princes that favoured it with their grants and confirmations, and protected it with their power; and many private gentlemen of fortune distinguished it with their bounty.

Amongst the former Henry the 2d. when Duke of Normandy and Earl of Anjou, gave a charter of confirmation of lands and rents belonging to the crown of England to this monastery, "which (says he) I began to assist with my benefaction and cherish with my protection in the beginning of my youth, (*initio juventutis meæ.*)"—King John confirmed all preceding grants, and quit-claimed their land from the view of his foresters, and the rule of the forest (*regnardo,*) and gave them 44 acres in Eissemore free from all services &c.

He also granted and confirmed to them Leigh, a member of Bedminster near Bristol.—Edward the 2d. also by charter confirmed all former grants.

Ralph Earl of Chester gave the land of Fifehead in Dorsetshire and the church of All Saints in Bristol.

Mabile Countess of Gloucester, mother of Earl William, gave them sixty acres of land in Romne marsh, between the monastery of St. Peter de Mora and the grove towards the north.

William Earl of Gloucester gave them one hundred acres in Kiburgh between Duneleis and Kenelechi, and Runn and Donestone across from side to side.

Osbert de Pennard gave the land of Pennard with its appurtenances and liberties, and particularly the pasture between Teach and Clay, and Earl William confirmed it to them.

John de Cogan gave twenty acres of land and two acres of meadow near Pennard. William, son of Gregory, gave forty solidates of land in Alberton. William de Lond gave the lands of Blackensword. Gregory de Turry eight solidats of rent in Newport. Eudo de Morevil half a virgate of land at Wrokeshale and the mill of Radeford. Richard de Wrokeshale, the son of Toni, his land of Radeford. William, the son of Robert the son of Martin, a messuage in Blakedone with two crofts, ten acres of land, with common of pasture in the same vill. William, the son of Ascy, and Galfrid his brother, one rood of land at Weston.

King John granted and confirmed all the burgages that they had in the town of Bristol and without, as well in the fair as elsewhere, given to them after the death of William Earl of Gloucester; also the mills they have upon the Trinel, and the lands which they have at Blackensword.

William de Clifledon gave the church of Clifledone. Gilbert de Aldelane gave half a hide of land in Ferenberge. Nicholas, the son of Robert (Fitz-harding), the church of Tikeham. Earl William the church of Grantendene, the church of Halbertone, and the church of Ronne and of Flat Holme. William, the son of Gregory, the church of Finenere. King John granted and confirmed to them all their liberties and free customs, and that the canons shall be ever free from toll and passage for ships, men, and boats, and be quit from all exactions belonging to him in the ports of the sea or elsewhere.

By an old deed extant in the bishop's registers of the church of Wells, dated 1257, it appears that the churches of Portbury, Tykenham, Were, and Poulet were then appropriated to the abbot and convent of St. Augustin, Bristol.

This house was one of the great abbies, and the whole convent consisted of an abbot, prior, sub-prior, and about fourteen friers or canons regular, professing the rule

rule of St. Augustin, of the order of St. Victor; whether they did not increase the number of their body, according to their income and ability, does not appear; that such was the number in 1353 however is clear.

The form observed in electing the abbot was the following, as I find it in a Latin deed, dated March 7, 1353, when William Coke, the sub-prior, was chosen abbot; about whose election some dispute had arisen, which was determined at length by the prior of the church of Worcester, the see being then vacant: — “Walter de Shafestbury, prior of the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, and the under-written canons regular of the same, viz. frier Thomas de Bykenore, Robert Dunsterre, Simon de Tormarton, Robert Syde, John de Lammer, Richard Martyn Chamberlain, John Badminton, Walter Cheltenham, Laurence de Cyrencester, John Snyte, John de Launston, Walter Raguim, Adam Horselye, John Goldenye, John Strete, making the convent of the said monastery, being met in the chapter-house, and having received the licence of Philippa Queen of England their patron to choose an abbot in room of Ralph Asche the last abbot, who died the 1st of March, 1352, the word of God being first expounded and an hymn de Sancto Spiritu sung, all present then in the chapter-house being ordered solemnly to depart who had no right in this election of an abbot, the Queen’s letter of licence was first read, and consideration had among themselves concerning the mode of the election, which was determined to be by scrutiny; three scrutators out of the whole were then chosen, who were separately to receive the vote of each present in a secret manner and write it down, and so continue the scrutiny till the major part of the canons of the whole convent should consent to the same fit person; which being done, the scrutators privately retiring to one corner of the chapter-house, and having wrote and reckoned the votes, they published their scrutiny to the rest in common, by which it appeared that nine of them consented to name William Coke, the other eight of them divided their votes to different persons. The best and major part of the whole convent having thus given their votes for William Coke, thereto qualified as a religious man, professing the rule of St. Augustin and the order of canons regular instituted in the said monastery, honest, of a lawful age above thirty, in the order of priesthood, born in lawful wedlock, on all which accounts the election was unanimously ordered to be made by Robert Syde thus: “In the name of the high and undivided Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen. Whereas the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, is now vacant by the death of Ralph Asch the last abbot, who has been ecclesiastically interred, and all those who could be present and had right of electing a future abbot at

a day and hour appointed for such election came together and agreed, that the said election should be made by scrutiny, which was accordingly made and published, it was clearly found that the best and major part of the said whole convent agreed upon frier William Coke, the sub-prior, a provident and discrete person, competently learned, eminent for his morals and conversation in life, a priest in orders, expressly professing the rule of St. Augustin, and the order of canons regular in the said monastery, of ripe age, begot in lawful matrimony, prudent in all temporal and spiritual matters, whom nothing prevents of canonical institution. Therefore I Robert Syde, precentor of the said monastery on behalf of myself and the whole convent by the power given me by the whole convent, invoking the grace of the Holy Spirit, do elect our said brother William Coke for abbot of the monastery aforesaid :” and immediately afterwards we all and every one (the said elect only excepted, who then neither approved nor disapproved the said election) with one accord consented to and expressly approved of the said election so solemnly celebrated; and lifting up the said elected brother William Coke with our hands amongst us, and singing solemnly Te Deum Laudamus, we carried him to the high altar of the said monastery, and reclined him upon the said altar according to custom, and saying the usual prayer over him, we commanded the said election to be published in the English tongue to the clergy and laity then in the said monastery in great multitude assisting, by the said frier Robert Syde there present, taking on him that order by our direction. The day following 16th March at three o’clock we caused to be presented the process of the said election by our fellow canon and proctor Richard Martyn to the said elected abbot, desiring that he would vouchsafe to yield consent to the said election; he willing to see the said process and to deliberate concerning it received it, and at nine o’clock the same day the said proctor required of him consent to the said election in this manner: “ I frier Richard Martyn, the proctor of the prior and convent of canons regular of St. Augustin, Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester, do present to you our elect lord for abbot of the said monastery the process of election made of you; I also require in my own and the name of the said prior and convent humbly, that you would vouchsafe to impart your consent to the said election.” After this the said elect after short deliberation answered the said proctor, and consented to it in this manner: “ In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. I William Coke, canon regular of the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester, observing from the tenor of the process of election of an abbot of the said monastery made of me, which process has been offered to me and examined, that the said election has been made in canonical form, reposing
hope

hope in God of my ability in the said matter, and unwilling on this occasion to resist the divine will, in honour of God and the glorious Virgin and of St. Augustin to whose honour this monastery was built, do consent to this election made of me." Thus was the election of an abbot conducted in all its forms; nothing now remained but the convent applying to the Bishop of Worcester to confirm their choice and to confer the benediction of the abbot, which finished the whole, and the abbot was inducted and installed by the prior of St. James, to whom a commission from the see of Worcester was directed for that purpose. Whether this abbot conducted the affairs of the monastery with prudence and good conduct and reformed abuses does not appear; but it is very certain, such abuses often existed there, and in very early times.

In the year 1234, upon the resignation of David the abbot, William prior of the same church (called William de Bradstone) succeeded, and received the benediction of an abbot at Worcester, and satisfied the sacrist concerning his cup and alb (or gown) and the convent in the procurations of 40s. (ann. Wyg.) and in 1242 Walter de Cantelupe Bishop of Worcester visited the monastery, and upon the resignation of William the abbot, Wm. the Camerarius de Keynsham succeeded and made the same satisfaction.

In the year 1278, 9th Nov. Godfrey Bishop of Worcester, in his visitation of the abby of St. Augustin, Bristol, found it as well in temporal as spiritual matters greatly decayed, (*damnabiliter prolapsam*) and ordered, "that in future they do not as bees fly out of the choir as soon as service is ended, but devoutly wait as become holy and settled persons, not as vagrants and vagabonds; and returning to God due thanks for their benefactors, and so receiving at last the fruits of their religion, to which they have specially devoted themselves. And as the present abbot was not sufficiently instructed to propound the word of God in common, he appointed others in his stead: and that silence be better observed than usual, that no one go out without urgent necessity, and not then but when two are in company, one the elder the other the younger, licensed by the abbot, or the prior in his absence.

In the chapter correction was to be done without respect of persons, harder penance to be imposed on the more gross and frequent offenders. In the refectory the friers were to be provided as was requisite and the estates would allow, and to keep silence there as the regular observance requires, and there all were to live in common and eat, unless necessity force them to do otherwise, and no brother was to dispose of the fragments of the table, but the whole be laid up for alms. In the infirmary food and drink was to be provided for the sick, and other things useful for them: and he forbade under a curse

curse that any feign himself sick when he is not so, to live a dissolute life and fraudulently despise God's worship; and on the like penalty he forbad any secular persons being introduced to them except the physician and the servants of the infirmary, nor should the friars that were in health meet there for the sake of drinking and surfeiting. Also in their meals all were to abstain from detraction and obscene speech, but use words of honesty and good tendency to edify the soul. The abbot was to correct all misdoers in the chapter-house, only not publicly; and when the abbot eat in the refectory or infirmary, his servants and clerks were to dine with the strangers in some common room and not in their own chambers, nor have any drinking there as was used. And as the temporal revenue was not well managed, he ordered that the abbot should have two receivers to write distinctly and openly from whom, what, and when they received, that none receive but those two, and that the abbot should provide a brother to keep the granary in the abby, and receive from the manors and churches the corn of every kind by distinct tallies from the deliverers, and further shall make tallies against those who have the custody of the bread and beer, and others who sell corn from the granary. That the abbot should swear all his servants for the faithful discharge of their duty, and for rendering a just account yearly when required; and that the bailiffs shall be examined and their accounts approved by four examiners of the convent chosen every year for that purpose: that at the end of the year what was received and expended, and on what occasion, and what remains may appear to all.

And as the abbot had a superfluous family and useless, he appointed that he should have a moderate family as William his predecessor used to have, one or two chaplains, two or three scutiferos and no more; and that his chaplain receive the expences of the abbot when he goes abroad from the receivers, and receive nothing from the bailiffs or servants, and account with the receivers on his return: and that when the abbot goes from his principal house he see that it be first well provided with victuals and other things that may be wanting in his absence, and not keep splendid entertainments out of his house as he used, unless necessity and evident use require, and this with the consent of the convent. And that Henry of the granary, Hugh the seller of the corn, and Roger the porter be removed from their offices and others more faithful be appointed in their room. And that all useless servants be turned out, and only the useful and necessary kept; that in his next visitation nothing be found offensive but what shall be profitable to the monastery.

And

And in the year 1280 John the abbot being very ill detained by sickness, the monastery was again on the decline, and the monks despised the rules of the house, for which the bishop threatened them with ecclesiastical censure.

But in the year 1282 he again visited the monastery and stopped there three days; the first day he visited St. Austin's, and the second and third the house of St. James and St. Mark, and was at his own expence, and found all well (*tam in capite quam membris*) only that the old abbot lived out of the monastery in some manor of his to the loss of the convent; and that they were burdened with a debt of 300*l.* sterling, because Bogo de Clare took from them that year a certain church of 150*l.* against all justice.

In the year 1320 the Bishop of Worcester at his visitation corrected several irregularities in this monastery; he ordered all the hounds they kept to be removed, the almoner frier Henry de Gloucestre to be displaced, and enquiry to be made concerning frier John de Scheftebury accused of incontinence with certain women unknown, and concerning William Barry for sowing discord among the brethren; that the sick be better provided for, that the brethren have a sufficiency, but in cash as hath been accustomed, that the mass of the Blessed Virgin be duly and solemnly celebrated, that the 40*d.* be distributed in the convent and not be detained by the prior or sub-prior; that William Barry under a sentence of excommunication for apostacy be absolved, and that his penance of drinking water only, which he has done constantly on a Wednesday, be dispensed with, and that he may drink beer and eat pulse, but abstain from eating fish.

In the year 1322 peace was restored and the dispute settled between the monastery of St. Augustin and the house of St. Mark concerning the area or plain called the Cemiteriy of St. Austin's, Bristol, and the use of the same.

In 1371 the King sent a letter to William Bishop of Worcester, ordering him to visit the abby of St. Augustin, Bristol, as Henry who then presided over it, it appeared had wasted the rents of the said abby by incurring excessive charges and other mismanagement, whereby the divine service there was almost at an end, all alms-giving ceased, and the canons dispersed for want of support, unless remedies were soon used.

Silvester Bishop of Worcester obliged the abbot and convent of St. Augustin to pay in right of their prebend of Berkeley five marks a year to the sacrist of the church of Worcester, to find a lamp to burn before the tomb of John, formerly the illustrious King of England, buried in that church, (L. Rub. Wygorn,

Wygorn, p. 195. 6.) which was confirmed by Walter the Bishop the 15th of the kalends of November 1310.

Abbas Santi Augustini &c. i. e. The abbot of St. Augustine's, Bristol, paid to the Lord Bishop 3l. 6s. 8d. at the two feasts that is at Easter and Michaelmas, out of a pension of the church of Berkeley, which is the sum of five marks above-mentioned, and probably on the same account.

In 1374 the prior of the church of Worcester, the see being then vacant, by authority of the court of Canterbury, issued a decree for the regulation of the house of St. Augustin, by Bristol, then in great disputes and disorders; by which he ordained, 1. That alms should be done there as used according to custom and the estates of the monastery. 2. That the prior in the absence of the abbot should grant the licences. 3. That the canons in the Infirmary should be relieved while sick, and be provided with victuals more nice than for the healthy and with medicines their sickness may require; and that the patient have 40s. as a favour as used. 4. That seven canons worthy of trust have the custody of the common seal, and each have one key of it, and the said keepers be deputed by the abbot. 5. Also that the canons go out honestly to their labour according to custom, and have their leisure after dinner in due places as the time permit. 6. That provision be made for the secular clerks used to singing in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, and that they be supported as of ancient custom. 7. That the sacrist at his own expence provide for the wax candles that used to burn in the said chapel, and lamps in the church fix, &c. that the chamberlain (*camerarius*) provide the same to burn in the dormitory. 8. That five of the older and healthier canons be chosen, with whose advice the abbot may treat of the greater matters relating to the house, and do for the best; without whose advice the corn of the monastery above ten pounds value shall not be sold in anywise, and that these advisers be chosen by the abbot and convent; by whose advice officers of the monastery shall be deputed to render an account of their services every year or oftener, at the will of the abbot, who may remove them at his pleasure. 9. That as to the spiritualities of the convent for their habit and other things, collectors be deputed and two receivers by the abbot and convent, who may faithfully deliver and keep the money due and in this part used, and distribute it among the convent by the supervision of the abbot and the said five advisers. 10. That the bedding in the Infirmary be amended, restored, and honestly kept. 11. That as to the secular servants in the Infirmary, Refectory, or elsewhere on the part of the convent, they shall be appointed by the abbot and the said five advisers, which servants shall swear not to divulge to any one the secret counsels

sels of the convent but faithfully conceal them; and that they will minister and maintain no matter of disagreement betwixt the abbot and convent and any others, but cherish peace and love; whoever is found culpable to be removed from their offices. 12. That the best bedding of all that die in the convent be removed into the Infirmary for the use of the sick. 13. That there be had one (brevigerulus) carrier of the service books, to do his office and have his usual support. 14. That the cook have no secular person about him in his office. 15. That as to the receival of the common money of the monastery two prudent men of the convent shall be chosen by the abbot and the five advisers, and the abbot to be a third, and they to have three keys of the chest in which the said money is to be deposited by them, and each should carry one of the said three keys, and then at the command of the abbot and the council of the said five advisers the said money should be expended for the use of the monastery and convent as should seem needful. 15. Also that the bread and beer should be made better, and also be in more competent quantity than hitherto. 16. That as to the kitchen, the convent should be provided with two sorts of flesh in sufficient quantity at the discretion of the abbot and the said five advisers, and that the like be done concerning fish on fish-days; and on the sabbath days they should be served with fresh fish when to be got; and the convent should then after one year be served out of the kitchen as had been accustomed, unless any thing should happen to prevent fulfilling it, on which occasion the abbot and five advisers were to determine. 17. That for the five marks claimed by the convent out of the manor of Bageruge the abbot would grant six marks out of Marsfeld if the profits thereof will arise to that sum, otherwise out of the other proventions of the monastery. 18. Also that as to knives being bought yearly for the convent, let them be provided as had been accustomed.

These regulations were established and done in the chapter-house of the monastery in the year 1374, the 27th of August, and confirmed by the official of the see of Worcester setting his seal with witnesses, as appears by the Latin deed in Regist. Wygor. fed. Vecante, f. 179, which I have translated above.

In 1345, 1st Jan. Wolstan Bishop of Worcester confirmed to the monastery of St. Augustin the several churches of Ashelworth, Berkeley, Wappely, Almondbury, also St. Nicholas, St. Leonard, All-Saints, and St. Augustin's the Lefs in Bristol.

In 1480, in the time of William Hunt abbot, the prior and convent granted an obiit and mass to be called Abbot William's Mass, to be perpetually celebrated by one Cofrere a priest at seven o'clock every morning, in a certain new chapel of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, situate in the East end of the conventual

church, for the good estate of the said William while he shall live and for his soul after he is departed, &c. for that the said William devoutly disposed had caused to be erected at his own expence many great barns houses and other costly edifices, as well in divers manors belonging to the said monastery as in the said monastery itself, and had made anew the covering of the whole conventual church, as well by battlements with stones and pinnacles decently placed round the said church as by timber, lead and other necessaries, and had given to the monastery there for ever to remain certain vessels silver and gilt, and some other jewels (jocalia) silver and gilt of no small value, and conferred many other gifts and benefits on his monastery while he was abbot. The convent ensured to the Bishop of Worcester the manor of Gorwell in Somerset, with a right of common on Menydepe for the prior to pay for ever for this obit, which was estimated at 8l. a year; he died the 14th March 1480.

In 1481 John Newland alias Neilheart, was chosen abbot in his stead.

The following is a list of the abbots from Brown Willis, and from the registers of Worcester and abbot Newland's manuscript compared with others.

1. Richard the first abbot was instituted in 1148 and governed 38 years, (28 according to Newland,) till his death.
2. Phillip succeeded and was removed 1196 (according to the Mon. Anglic. v. 1. p. 1034.) to Bellelande in Yorkshire.
3. John, he governed 29 years, and died the 12th of February 1215, and another of the same name succeeded. See page 246.
4. John (according to Newland Joseph) died in six weeks, and others say 31 weeks after his election.
5. David was chosen 1216, resigned or died 1234, and was buried under a marble with the figure of a human skull and cross on it, near the Elder Lady's Chapel, still to be seen there.
6. William de Bradestone, his arms are in the window over the high altar, A. on a canton, G. a rose or. barbed proper. He was of Winterborne in the county of Gloucester; he resigned the 20th of August 1242, after which he lived ten years.
7. William Long, called Camerarius de Cainsham, said to have been a monk there; he died the 17th of May 1264, and lies buried in the North aisle on the left hand of Hugh Dodington.
8. Richard de Malmesbury, he died the 13th of September 1276, after governing 12 years.

9. John

9. John de Marina elected the 10th of October 1276, was long troubled with sickness and died the 26th of February 1286, having governed 10 years, and was buried in the chapter-house.

10. Hugh of Dodington was confirmed abbot 1287, pat. 9th of Edward 1st. died the 26th of November 1294, after governing 8 years, and was buried in the cross North aisle betwixt two other abbots.

11. James Barry, he obtained the royal assent the 16th of December following, pat. 22d of Edward the 1st. he governed 12 years and died the 12th of November 1306, and was buried under a marble on the South side of the Rood altar. In 1299 going to Almondsbury late in the evening, many armed men entered suddenly and broke in upon him and took away what the abbot had there for his household, and killed his steward. Annal. Wygorn.

12. Edmund Knowles, or de Knolle, was elected by virtue of the royal licence dated the 30th of November 1306, (1311 Reg. Wyg.) he governed about 26 years. He is in Newland's account said to have begun rebuilding the church anew the 25th of Edward the 1st. the 20th of August, that is now standing from the ground, ("Ecclesia jam funditus diruta," Reg. Wygorn,) with the vestry and also the King's-hall and chamber, and the frater; and procured of the King a confirmation of all the possessions of the monastery. The fourth Maurice Lord Berkeley was a great promoter of this grant, and procured a papal bull to get benefactions towards rebuilding the church, see the patent and clause rolls the 31st of Edward the 1st. and the 10th of Edward the 2d. 1317. Abbot Knowles died the 9th of June 1332, and was buried against the North wall before the Rood high altar; his figure is in pontificalibus carved in freestone, lying on his back with a crozier in his hand and mitre on his breast; arms G. or. a chevron arg. three roses of the first.

13. John Snow was the first abbot of this monastery summoned to parliament, and indeed the last; he received the benediction from the Bishop of Worcester at Hartlebury-palace the 4th of July 1332, (the 17th of June according to Newland); having governed 9 years he died July the 12th, 1341.

14. Ralph Ash, or Asch, was confirmed abbot the 2d of August (21st July Reg. Wyg.) 1341, died the 1st of March 1353, and was buried in the middle of the choir: he bore for arms a tree in a field all proper; he petitioned to be discharged from attending the parliament, as expensive to his house, and obtained it in 1341.

15. William Cook was installed by mandate from the prior of Worcester in the vacancy of that see the 7th of March 1353, resigned in October 1363, and

died the 8th of April following, 1364, and was buried before the door entering the Lady's chapel, where the cross of lead is still to be seen. According to Newland he resigned 1365 and died 1366, and that in his time it was found by inquisition what lands the monastery possessed as by esch. the 45th of Edward the 3d. 1330, memb. 72, in the Tower of London.

16. Henry Shellingford, alias Blebery, elected 1366, he died the 2d of December 1388, and was buried in the nether tomb of the presbytery which he caused to be made beside the high altar. He is said to have wasted the possessions of the monastery by injurious leases and his own exorbitant expences, &c. as appears by a letter of Edward the 3d. the 45th year. Reg. Wygorn. Lynn. fol. 48.

17. John Cerny governed 5 years, he died the 5th of October 1393, and was buried in the over tomb of the presbytery.

18. John Daubeney governed 35 years, and died the 26th of January 1428.

19. Walter Newbury met with great trouble in his office, being unjustly expelled for five years, and one Thomas Sutton intruded into his place, till thrust out by the convent for dilapidations and other wastes committed in suffering quit rents to be lost; hence no account is taken of his death. As to the abbot Newbury he was a great benefactor to his church, and built the offices to the manor-house of Leigh, also the manor-houses of Fyfhead in Dorsetshire, and of Almondsbury and Ashelworth in Gloucestershire, belonging at present to the bishoprick of Bristol: he governed 35 years, died 1463 the 3d of September, (1473 Reg. Wyg.) and was buried against the North wall of the chapel, carved in stone in pontificalia, lying on his back with crozier and mitre.

20. William Hunt elected the 11th of September 1463, (9th Oct. 1473, Reg. Wyg.) and having governed 18 years, (7 years Reg. Wyg.) died the 14th of March 1481; he was a liberal benefactor to his monastery; rebuilt the roof of the church and ailes, and caused the lead to be new cast all from the tower eastward, for which he had a yearly mass decreed him perpetually to be observed; his arms were az. a St. Andrew's cross or.

21. John Newland, alias Naileheart, elected the 6th of April 1481; arms arg. three nails or. piercing an heart vuln'd proper: he was a very learned man, of great abilities, and often employed by King Henry the 7th. in foreign embassies: he beautified his church and added many buildings to it, and wrote its history and account of the family of the Berkeleys, still in manuscript: having governed 34 years, he died the 12th of June 1515, and was

was buried here under a stately monument.—In Wood's *Athence Oxon.* v. 1. p. 639, may be read a long account of him, "that he was called the good abbot, a person solely given to religion and alms deeds," &c.

22. Robert Elliot elected the 27th of September 1515, (7th Sept. Reg. Wyg.) he enjoyed it 10 years before J. Somerset, which I take notice of because his name is omitted in the list of abbots in the chapter-house, and by Brown Willis; he had some share in building the stately gate-house with abbot Newland, at least the upper part of it above the arch, where they made niches in which they did not forget to place their own statues with their arms underneath. On the floor of the cathedral are a great many square bricks with the initials R. E. for this abbot's name; also shields of arms with the same initials, which are arg. on a chief G. two mullets of the first.

23. John Somerset elected about 1526, died 1533; he bears the Somerset arms.

24. William Burton elected the 9th of September 1534, he with John Giles and 17 others of the monastery subscribed to the King's supremacy, and three years after deceased, the 28th of Henry the 8th. 1537.

25. Morgan Guiliam ap Guiliam elected 1537, being the last abbot; he surrendered his monastery into the King's hands the 9th of December 1539, and obtained a pension of 80l. per annum for life, he died before the year 1553.—In Fuller and Speed's history he is charged with keeping six lewd women, but it is thought without very good evidence; these and worse crimes were imputed to the monks as a strong and plausible excuse for dissolving their houses.

As this house was one of the great abbeys, it came to the crown by the statute of the 31st of Henry the 8th. and was certified to be worth in old rents according to Speed 767l. 15s. 3d. per annum, to Dudg. clear 670l. 13s. 11d. and some little provision was made for the monks then turned out.

The following account appears entered in the book of pensions on the date of the King's commission, which has this entry dated December the 9th 31st Henry the 8th. 1539.

First, "To Morgan Guiliam late abbat there, with the Mansion Place of Lee, (that is Abbot's Leigh,) the garden, orchard and dove-house to the same adjoining and yealding, (and also 20 loads of fyer-wood yearly to be perceyved and taken out of the wood of the said mannor by the assignment of the Kings Highness's surveyor or keeper there

there during his life without any thing yielding or paying for the same,)	-	-	-	£ 80	0	0
Item, To Humfry Hicman late prior there,	-	-	-	8	0	0
John Restal,	-	-	-	8	0	0
John Carye,	-	-	-	6	13	4
Nicholas Corbett,	-	-	-	6	13	4
Henry Pavye,	-	-	-	6	0	0
William Wrington,	-	-	-	6	0	0
William Underwood,	-	-	-	6	0	0
Richard Hill,	-	-	-	6	0	0
Richard Orrell,	-	-	-	6	0	0
Richard Sterley,	-	-	-	6	0	0
Richard Hughes,	-	-	-	6	0	0

Sum £ 151 6 8

It is uncertain what became of these religious afterwards. In the year 1553 John Restal, Richard Orell, Richard Kersey, Richard Hughes, and William Underwood, were living and received their pensions.—In 1554 Rich. Hughes was made a prebendary of this church.

King Henry having got infinite treasure by suppressing these religious houses, the better to palliate that seeming sacrilege doubtless greatly cried out against by the people of those days, made a shew of refunding part by erecting six new bishopricks, of which this dissolved monastery was one, which in the 34th year of his reign was erected into a bishoprick, consisting of a Bishop, Dean and six Prebendaries, &c. though like other things ordered in that confusion the diocese was very much distant from the see. The church of the monks was fixed upon for the cathedral; which began to be demolished, and was like to undergo the common fate of other ancient and venerable structures (once the glory and ornament of the English nation:) If my author rightly informs me, the rapacious disposition of the men of those times was such, that for the sake of the lead with which the west part of this church was covered, they were actually set to work upon the same, and after they had uncased the roof, quickly proceeded to destroy the structure itself (which was in part effected) but a stop being put to the same by order from the King, by his being informed, that there was yet left standing of the fabrick sufficient to make it a cathedral for the bishop's see, the further destruction was prevented, and it was left in that ruinous condition at the west side of the tower still to be seen,

seen, a standing monument of the precipitate and confused disorder with which matters were then carried on, and of the rage then stirred up and violence used against the monks and their superb buildings, where great hospitality was obliged to be kept for the relief of the poor; while the monasteries stood there was no act for their relief, so amply did those hospitable houses succour those in want, whereas in the next reign 39 Eliz. no less than eleven bills were brought into parliament for that sole purpose, and how real a burden the poor tax has been since needs not be mentioned. The refection and support of the poor was one of the articles often inserted in the grants to those houses. This good cannot then be denied them.

In one of the plays attributed to Shakespeare, wrote certainly as early, called the Life of Lord Cromwell, in edition of Tonson, 1728, vol. ix. p. 166. this use of the monasteries is thus insisted on by Gardiner.

Gardiner. Have I not reason when religion is wrong'd?

You had no colour for what you have done.

Cromwell. Yes: the abolishing of antichrist,

And of his Popish order from our realms:

I am no enemy to religion,

But this is done; it is for England's good;

What did they serve for? But to feed a sort

Of lazy abbots and of full-fed friers?

They neither plow nor sow, and yet they reap

The fat of all the land, and suck the poor:

Look what was their's is in King Henry's hands,

His wealth before lay in the abby lands.

Gardiner. Indeed these things you have alledged, my Lord,

When, God doth know, the infant yet unborn

Will curse the time the abbies were pull'd down;

I pray you where is hospitality?

Where now may poor distressed people go

For to relieve their need or rest their bones,

When weary travel doth oppress their limbs:

And where religious men should take them in

Shall now be kept back by a mastiff dog,

And thousand thousands, &c.

Though the drones were turned out of the hive, yet the buildings so superb and so ornamental to the kingdom might have been spared, and converted to
the

the uses of charity and hospitality and be made houses of industry to employ the poor, like country work-houses so much talked of now, though so slowly put in practice on account principally of the expence in erecting them.

To conclude the account of this abby, I here add a copy of the foundation charter, preserved still in Berkeley castle, with a translation, referring the reader for the rest of the deeds, &c. to the places where they may be consulted.

Prioratus Sancti Augustini de Bristol in agro Gloucestrensi.

Carta Roberti filii Hardingi, de fundatione ejusdem.

* Robertus filius Hardingi, omnibus hominibus et amicis suis, et universis sanctæ ecclesiæ fidelibus, ad quos hæc carta pervenerit, salutem : Sciatis quod cum Dominus Rex Henricus manerium de Berchallé, et totam Berchaleiernesse mihi in feodum et hæreditatem dedisset, et Cartâ suâ confirmâset, cum omnibus libertatibus et rebus ad Berchaleiernesse pertinentibus, in ecclesiis, in nemoribus, in pratis, et pasturis, et in omnibus aliis rebus, sicut fuerunt tempore Henrici regis avi sui : Ego consensu et assensu ipsius domini mei regis, ecclesias de Berchaleiernesse ; scilicet, ecclesiam de Berchalé, et ecclesiam de Were, et ecclesiam de Beverstan, et ecclesiam de Effeleward ; et ecclesiam de Almodesburi, singulis cum capellis, et terris, et libertatibus ad ipsas ecclesias pertinentibus, pro salute animæ meæ, et domini mei regis, et antecessorum meorum, et uxoris meæ, et liberorum, dedi et concessi ecclesiæ Sancti Augustini de Bristol, et canonicis regularibus ibidem domino servientibus, in perpetuam et liberam elemosinam, nullo jure retento, mihi vel hæredibus meis, in prædictis ecclesiis, cum eas vacare contigerit. — Similiter et omnes ecclesias de Berchaleiernesse, ubicunque fuerint, cum capellis et omnibus eorum pertinentiis dedi, et concessi prædictis canonicis in perpetuam elemosinam, et hac meâ cartâ confirmavi. Hiis testibus, Henrico Decano Moretoniæ, et Mauritio fratre ejus, Giraldo persona ecclesiæ de cam, W. de Saltmaris, et Adamo fratre ejus, Helia filio Hardingi, Richardo scriptore, et Alano de Bedmenistra.

The priory of St. Augustin, in Bristol, in the county of Gloucester.

A deed of Robert son of Harding concerning the foundation thereof.

Robert son of Harding to all men and his friends, and all the faithful to the holy church, to whom this charter shall come, health : know ye that whereas our Sovereign Lord King Henry gave to me in fee the manor of Berchalle, and all Berchalleiernesse and all that belong to the same, and by his deed hath confirmed the same with all the privileges thereto belonging, with its appurtenances both in churches, woods, meadows, pastures, and in all

* Ex ipso autographo in armario cartarum prænobilis Georgii Domini Berkley, apud Berkley castrum.

all other things, as they were in the time of his grandfather King Henry. I therefore with the full assent and consent of the said Lord my King have given and granted to the church of St. Augustin of Bristol, and to the canons regular there serving God, for the health of my own soul and the souls of my King, my ancestors, my wife, and children all those churches belonging to Berchaleirnesse, (to wit) the church of Berchallé, Were, Beverstan, Effelward and Almodesbury, with all chapels, lands, and privileges, with the appurtenances to those churches belonging, to be held in free and perpetual alms, no right being retained by me or my heirs in or to the said churches, when they become vacant: I have likewise given and granted all the churches belonging to Berchaleirnesse, wherever they shall be, with the chapels and all their appurtenances to the said canons in perpetual alms, confirming the same by this charter. These being witnesses: Henry Dean of Moreton and Maurice his brother, Girald, the parson of the church of Cam, W. of Saltmarsh, Adam his brother, Heli the son of Harding, Richard the secretary, and Alan of Bedminster.

[This deed is of about the year 1148. Bishop Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, p. 480. thinks this is the foundation charter.]

The other following deeds, public records, books, &c. as quoted by Bishop Tanner, in the *Notitia Monastica*, (edition by J. Nasmith, A. M.) give a full and satisfactory account of many particulars of the history, endowments, rights, advowsons, &c. of the abby and bishopric, to which I refer.

Vide in <i>Monast. Ang.</i> vol. ii. p. 232, 233, cartam Roberti filii Hard- ingi de fundatione* prioratus: car- mina quædam Anglic. de Roberto Harding. pat. 11, Edw. 2d. p. 2d. m. 29. per inspex. recit. cartas Hen- rici Ducis Normanniæ confirm. Al- modesberiam, Wappeleiam, etc. Ro- berti filii Hardingi et Johannis com. Moriton.	See <i>Monasticon Anglicanum</i> , vol. ii. p. 232, the deed of Robert son of Harding of the foundation of the priory and certain English verses of Robert Harding, 2d Edw. 2d. p. 2, m. 29, reciting the deeds of Henry Duke of Normandy confirming Almondsbury, Wappling, &c. Of Robert son of Harding and John Earl of Morton.
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In Willis's *History of Abbies*, vol.
i. p. 225, &c. an account of this
church, with a catalogue of the abbots,

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ibid

* Thus the title in the *Monasticon*. But this charter was not made till after King Henry 2d. came to the crown, and this monastery was certainly founded before his reign, he having whilst only Duke of Normandy made several donations to it, and declaring in one of his grants that this monastery "cepi initio juventutis meæ fovere et juvare." — I rather think the charter of Rob. fil. Harding. *Mon. Angl.* vol. ii. p. 232, b. lin. 64, is the foundation charter.

ibid p. 324, and App. p. 65, 66.

In his Survey of Cathedrals, vol. i. p. 758, a further account of this church, an account of persons buried there, of the endowment of the bishopric and chapter, with a catalogue of the bishops, deans, archdeacons, and prebendaries, and the names of all the parishes in the diocese, &c.

In Le Neve's Fasti, p. 48, the succession of the bishops, deans, archdeacons, and prebendaries of this cathedral.

In Rileii Plac. Parliam. p. 165, concordiam inter Bogonem de Clare et abbatem St. Augustini Bristol, 21st Edw. 1st.

In Dugd. Baron. vol. i. p. 358, 359, of a chantry, &c. herein founded by Thomas Lord Berkeley.

Year Books, 35th Hen. 6th. Mich. § 43. In Stevens's Supplement, vol. ii. p. 140, a catalogue of the abbots.

In Rymeri Conventionum, &c. tom. v. p. 246, pat. 15th Edw. 3d. p. i. m. 13, pro abbate, de non veniendo ad parliamentum quia non tenet per baroniam nec de fundatione regis *

Tom. xiv. p. 748, pat. 34th Hen. 8th. p. 10, m. 26, de erectione episcopatus.

Tom. xv. p. 77, pat. 37th Hen. 8th. p. 9, m. 25, super distributione 40l. per ann. eleemosynarum per decanum et capitulum.

In Ryley's Pleas of Parliament, p. 165, between Bogo de Clare and the abbot of St. Augustine of Bristol, the 21st of Edward 1st.

In Ryder's Conventionum, &c. vol. v. p. 246, patent, 15th Edw. 3d. p. 1, m. 13, concerning excusing the abbot for not coming to parliament, because he did not hold the same, by reason of the barony nor as the foundation of a king.

Concerning the erection of the bishopric.

Vol. xv. p. 77, patent 37, Henry 8th. p. 9, m. 25, the distribution of the 40l. per annum in alms by the dean and chapter.

Ibid,

* Printed also in Stevens's Appendix, p. 350.

Ibid, p. 370, commissionem ad deprivandum Paulum episc. Bristol, A. D. 1554.

Ibid, p. 459, pat. 3 et 4, Phil. et Mar. p. 10, m. 24, pro exoneratione Johannis episc. Bristol. a primitiis et decimis, ratione episcopatus.

Tom. xvi. p. 524, pro Joanne Thornborough episc. electo, decanatum et prebendam in eccl. Ebor. in commendam possidentes, eo quod episcopatus Bristol tam exilis est.

Registra, cartas originales, &c. penes R. R. dom. episcopum et decanum et capitulum eccle, cath. Bristol.

Registrum five potius historiam fundationis hujus cœnobii a Joanne Newland abbate contextam, MS. apud castrum de Berkeley in com. Glocest.

Abbreviaturas quarundam concessionum huic abbatie in MS. Macro, 12, ii. f. 2, a. f. 18, a.

Fin. Buckingham. 5 Joan. n. 125, de terris in Finemere; fin. in div. com. 11 Joan. n. 55, de advoc. eccl. de Lanvernac, Glamorg.

Cart. 36 Hen. 3. m. 13.

Plac. in com. Somerset. 8 Edw. 1. assis. rot. 27, de c. acris terræ in Legh.

Cart. 13 Edw. 1. n. 15, pro mercato et feria apud Almundesbury, Gloucestershire.

The same, p. 370, a commission to deprive Paul Buth, Bishop of Bristol, in the year 1554.

The same, p. 459, patent the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, page 10, m. 24, concerning the exemption of John Bishop of Bristol from first fruits and tythes.

Vol. xvi. p. 524, concerning John Thornborough, his being elected Bishop of Bristol and his holding the deanery and prebendary of York in commendam, because of the smallness of the income of the bishopric of Bristol.

The Registers and original writings &c. in the keeping of R. R. Lord Bishop and the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Bristol.

The Register or rather the history of the foundation of this monastery, by John Newland, abbot, to be found in the castle of Berkeley, in the county of Gloucester. (Manuscript.)

Abridgments of certain grants to this abbot in Dr. Macro's manuscript, 12. ii. f. 2, f. 18, a.

Certain fines in Buckinghamshire, the 5th of John, n. 125, of lands in Finemere: fines in div. com. 11 John, n. 55, concerning the church of Lanvernack, Glamorganshire.

Pleas in the county of Somerset, 8th of Edw. 1st. in the rote of assizes the 27th, concerning 100 acres of land in Legh.

A deed the 13th of Edward 1st. n. 15, for holding a fair at Almondsbury, in the county of Gloucester.

Ibid, n. 35, pro lib. war. in Al-
mundesbury, Harfold, et Cromhole,
Glocestr. Leye, Somerset. Fifhide,
Dorset.

Plac. in com. Glocestr. 15 Edw. 1ft.
quo war. rot. 16, pro libertat. in Berke-
lehernes, &c. pat. 23 Edw. 1. m.

Pat. 5 Edw. 2. p. 1, m. 22, pro
eccl. de Wotton approprianda.

Cart. 11 Edw. 2. n. 17.

Pat. 4 Edw. 3. p. 2. m.

Pat. 8 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 3, pro eccl.
de Fifhyde.

Pat. 11 Edw. 3. p. 3, m. 32, vel. 33.

Pat. 18 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 6, vel. 7,
et m. 46, vel. 47, de excambio cum
priori S. John. Jerusalem.

Pat. 26 Edw. 3. p. 1. m. 10.

Pat. 26 Edw. 3. p. 3, m. de Claven-
swell. escaet. Somerset. 27 Edw. 3.
n. 52.

Pat. 32 Edw. 3. p. 2, m. 12.

Pat. 40 Edw. 3. p. 1. m. 35, vel. 36.

Escaet. Glocestr. 45 Edw. 3. n. 72.

Escaet. Dorset. 49 Edw. 3. p. 2,
n. 46.

Pat. 20 Rich. 2. p. 2. m. 11, de ter-
ris, pasturis, et boscis, in Berkeley,
Glocestr.

Ibid, m. 22, pro eccl. de Fifhide
approprianda.

Pat. 12. Edw. 4. p. 1, m. 15.

Ibid, p. 2, m. 16 et 24, rec. in
scacc. 16 Hen. 8. Mich. rot. 10.

The same, n. 35, for a free War-
ren in Almonsbury, Horfield, and
Cromhole, in the county of Gloucester,
Leye, in the county of Somerset, and
Fifhead, in Dorsetshire.

Pleas in the county of Gloucester the
15th of Edward 1ft. by which are war-
ranted certain privileges, roll the 16th
in the hundred of Berkeley, &c.
Patent the 23d of Edw. 1ft. m.

Patent 5th Edward 1ft. p. 1. m. 22,
of the appopriation of the church of
Wotton.

For the church of Fifhead.

Of an exchange with the priory of
St. John of Jerusalem.

Of Clavenwell eschaet, Somerset.

Of the lands, pastures, and woods, in
Berkeley, Gloucestershire.

Of appropriating Fifhead,

Pat.

Pat. 34 Hen. 8. p. 10, (10 Jun.) pro
dotatione episcopatus.

Ibid, (Nov. 28.) pro dotatione de-
cani et capituli.

In Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 212,
manor and advowson of Almondsbury,
of Ashelworth, p. 222, Arlingham,
&c. &c. &c.

In Hutchin's Dorsetshire, vol. ii.
p. 301, advowson of Fyfehead, and
lands in G. Kingston.

In Adam Domerham, p. 197, pos-
sessions hujus abbatiæ infra bundas fo-
restarum in Somerset.

In Dr. Archer's Account of Religi-
ous Houses, p. 632, advowsons hereto
belonging in the diocese of Bath and
Wells.

William of Worcestre Dimensiones
Ecclesiæ, p. 233, 289.

Leland, Collect. vol. i. 85. Itin.
vol. i. 91, 94, &c.

Pat. 34th Henry 8th. (10th June)
endowment of the bishopric.

Endowment of the dean and chap-
ter, (Nov. 28.)

In Adam Domerham, p. 197, the
possessions of this abby within the
bounds of the forests in Somerset.

C H A P. IX.

*Of the BISHOPRICK of BRISTOL, its DIOCESE,
CATHEDRAL, &c.*

THE Abby of St. Augustin so liberally endowed, so powerfully protected, and so strongly secured by royal charters and confirmations, was now to yeild to the common fate of other religious houses which were seized for the King's use, though it was thought their riches were the occasion of their ruin, and their gold, jewels and estates were wanted to enrich the royal coffers; yet some plausible excuses were to be found for the dissolution; and the commissioners sent upon this business in many places probably had some just warrant for their proceedings, yet they often exceeded their commissions.

The low finances of the King and an exhausted treasury were the principal reasons of their using this violent measure; they cast about them in their necessities and here found a ready supply to their wants. But there are some causes that have been unnoticed, which surely contributed in their natural tendency to hasten and facilitate the dissolution, and abolish the monastic life.—The late great increase of trade and navigation, and the discovery of America not long before, and the advantages of a free extended commerce had begun now to open men's minds and to give a spring and activity to them unknown before, and to take them off from the quiet still life of contemplation and religious retirement. The monks themselves too grew less strict in their discipline, less observant of their rule, mixing more with the world, which was often complained of in the visitations of their houses by the bishops; their number being seldom kept up, in many not enough to make a convent, or society. — A busy life of commerce and attention to trade eagerly pursued would probably produce similar effects now, would soon supplant religion and banish it out of the kingdom, if our constitution of government in church and state were not so intimately blended, and our religious establishment not made part of the law of the land, so that one cannot long subsist without the other, but each now mutually supports the other, and will necessarily do so, and the Christian religion will thus continue in England ever to flourish

in its purity amongst us. — Henry the 8th. whose profusion of expence and strong passions impelled him to take, and undaunted spirit and resolution enabled him to execute this bold undertaking, was a man of understanding and great abilities, and if we may believe his royal word, had some good motives in this ruin and desolation of monasteries, intending much the reformation of abuses, increase of religion, and encouragement of learning : — in erecting six new bishopricks out of the spoils of the abbies he gave some proof of these good intentions. His expressions in the deed of erection of the bishoprick of Bristol are very pointed: “*Divinâ nos clementiâ inspirante,*” &c. *i. e.* “Inspired by the divine clemency, We from our heart affecting nothing more than that the true religion and true worship of God may not only not be abolished, but that rather it may be wholly restored and reformed to the primitive rule of its own genuine purity; and having corrected the enormities into which the life and profession of the monks in the long course of time had most deplorably increased, (*exorbitaverat,*) we have endeavoured as far as human infirmity can provide against it, that in future in this same place instructions out of the holy oracles and sacraments of our saving redemption may be purely administered, the discipline of good manners be sincerely kept, youth be liberally instructed in learning, old age failing in strength be cherished with things necessary for their support, that alms to the poor may abound, and the repairs of highways and bridges may from hence be supported, &c. We have therefore erected this bishoprick, &c.”

Bristol was judged fit for this purpose, being a large populous place and convenient for honour and dignity with regard to situation, though part of the diocese is very far distant from the see.

For the foundation of it is taken chiefly out of Salisbury, by separating the county and archdeaconry of Dorset from that diocese; out of Worcester, by taking several parishes in Gloucestershire, (part of which lay in Bristol city, then in that county;) and out of Wells, which had three churches or chapels also in the same city. — The number of parishes in this diocese, which besides Bristol city contains the whole county of Dorset, are, as Dr. Heylin tells us 236, of which 64 are impropriated; though in truth it has 256 churches and chapels, of which 221 are in the county of Dorset in that archdeaconry, 3 in Bristol city on the Somersetshire side in the archdeaconry of Bath, and the rest in the deanry of Bristol; which deanry besides 15 parishes within the liberties of the city comprehends 17 more out-lying churches and chapels in Gloucestershire, most of which, though heretofore under the archdeaconry of Gloucester, (besides little St. Augustine’s and St. Philip’s in Bristol, which still belong

belong to the same archdeaconry,) are now subject to the immediate jurisdiction of the Bishop of Bristol and his Chancellor, and exempted from archidiaconal jurisdiction. The county of Dorset still remains under its proper archdeacon, who has these deanries all in Dorsetshire under him, viz. Dorchester, Bridport, Pimperne, Shaftesbury, Whitchurch, first and second part; the two other deanries are Bristol, (all of it heretofore in the archdeaconry of Gloucester and diocese of Worcester,) and Bedminster cum Redcliff in Somersetshire, in the archdeaconry of Bath, (formerly in the diocese of Bath and Wells.) The clergy tenths according to Heylin's account amount to 353l. 18s. and a farthing.

DIOCESE OF BRISTOL.

First Fruits.					Yearly Tenths.			
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
294	11	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	-	Bishoprick of Bristol	-	-	27 14 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	

The cathedral—dedicated to the Holy and undivided Trinity—olim the conventual church of St. Augustin's monastery.

N. B. The yearly tenths were altered by judgment of the court of exchequer Hilary term the 8th of Eliz. to 27l. 14s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The patent of erection of this bishoprick bears date June the 4th, 1542, the 34th of Henry the 8th. as in Rymer, v. 14, p. 748. The deanry of this church is in the gift of the King, and not charged with first fruits and tenths.

ARCHDEACONRY of BATH, and formerly in the diocese of Bath and Wells; DEANRY of REDCLIFT CUM BEDMINSTER in the county of Somerset.

CITY OF BRISTOL.

Names of Churches and Chapels.			Patrons of Livings.			Religious House,					
Value in						To which anciently					
King's books.			Clear value as			impropriated.					
Rated 1534.			returned 1711.			Yearly Tenths.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>									
3	4	2	St. Cross, alias Temple church cur.	<i>l.</i> 33	<i>s.</i> 2	<i>d.</i> 8	City of Bristol,	Knight Templars,	<i>l.</i> 0	<i>s.</i> 6	<i>d.</i> 5
12	6	3	St. Mary Redclift vic. St. Thomas. cap. Abbot's Leigh, Holy Trinity.	<i>l.</i> 40	<i>s.</i> 13	<i>d.</i> 8	Prebendary of Bed- minster in the church of Salis- bury.	Prebendary of Bedminster.	<i>l.</i> 1	<i>s.</i> 4	<i>d.</i> 7½
Formerly											

Formerly in the ARCHDEACONRY of GLOCESTER and DIOCESE of WORCESTER.

Names of Churches and Chapels.			Patrons of Livings.			Religious House, To which anciently impropriated.			
Value in King's books. Rated 1534.			Clear value as returned 1711			Yearly Tenths.			
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>			<i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	
4	3	4	All-Saints vic.	21	11	8	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	0 8 4
6	0	0	St. Austin's the less vic.	5	10	0	Ditto.	Ditto.	0 12 0
11	0	0	Christ-Church, alias	3	8	0	City of Bristol.	Ditto.	1 2 0
			Trinity rec.						
			St. Ewen's, alias St.						
			Owen's rec.						
			St. James's cur.				City of Bristol.	{ Priory of St. James, Bristol. Abby of Tewkesbury.	
7	4	7	St. John Baptist rec. cum St. Laurence now demolished.	5	8	1	Ditto.		0 14 5½
12	0	0	St. Leonard's vic.	4	1	5	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	1 4 0
6	0	0	St. Michael's rec.	5	18	11	City of Bristol.		0 12 0
			St. Mark's cur.				Ditto.	{ College of the Gaunts in Bristol.	
7	0	0	St. Maryport rec.	6	6	10	Duke of Chandois.	Abby of Keynsham.	0 14 0
21	1	3	St. Nicholas vic.	7	16	6	Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	2 2 1½
6	7	6	St. Peter's rec.	0	12	5	City of Bristol.		0 12 9
15	0	0	St. Philip and St. Jacob's vic.	43	16	5	Ditto.	Abby of Tewkesbury.	1 10 0
16	0	0	St. Stephen's rec.	20	13	11	The Crown.	Abby of Glastonbury.	1 12 0
10	0	0	St. Werburgh's rec.	33	6	8	Ditto.	Abby of Keynsham.	1 0 0

County of GLOCESTER, DEANRY of BRISTOL, and ARCHDEACONRY of GLOCESTER,

20	0	0	Almondsbury vic. St. Mary.	}	40	13	10	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	2	0	0
			Clifton cur. St. Andrew.		}	10	0	0	Rev. Mr. Taylor.	College of Westbury.		
7	0	0	Compton Greenfield rec.	}		48	1	3	Lady Lippincott,		0	14
6	12	6	Elberton, annexed cur. to Olveston 1770.		}	46	0	0	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	0	13

Names of Churches and Chapels.			Patrons of Livings.			Religious House, To which anciently impropriated.		
Value in King's books. Rated 1534.			Clear value as returned 1711.			Yearly Tenths		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
7	0	0	Filton St. Peter rec.	36	11 3	M. Brickdale, Esq;		0 14 0
30	0	0	Henbury, St. Mary, vic. cum. Aust and Northwick chapels.	28	4 6	Sir J. H. Smyth and Mr. Gores; Lord Middleton & Mrs. Colston.	See of Worcester.	3 0 0
11	4	9	Littleton rec.	35	17 6	Lady Lippincott.		1 2 5½
			Mangotsfield cur.	20	0 0	Late Mr. Dowle.	Priory of St. James's, Bristol.	
			Horfield cur.	3	0 0	Bishop of Bristol.	Abby of Bristol.	
24	0	0	Olveston vic. St. Helen cum Cap de Alveston.			Chapter of Bristol.	Abby of Bath.	2 8 0
			Stapleton, Holy Tri- nity cur.	14	0 0	Tho. Smyth, Esq;	Priory of St. James's, Bristol.	
6	0	0	Stoke-Gifford, St. Michael cur. this lies in two parishes, viz. Winterborne and Almondsbury, but is presented to by	20	12 5	Dutchess Dowager of Beaufort.		0 12 0
			Westbury, Holy Tri- nity cur.	13	16 0	Mr. Fane.	College of Westbury.	
27	7	6	Winterborne, St. Michael rec.			St. John's College, Oxford.		2 14 9

Of these churches above-mentioned taken out of Wells and Worcester diocese Anno 1542, all those of Bristol are subordinate to the bishop's chancellor, who institutes to them all, except St. Augustine's and St. Philip's, which with the out-lying parishes still belong to the archdeacon of Gloucester, though the remaining part of the diocese, which is entirely in Dorsetshire yet remains to that archdeacon as it did heretofore while it belonged to the see of Salisbury.

For that part of Bristol diocese that lies wholly in the county of Dorset, and the names of the several parishes, I refer to Ecton's Liber Valorum republished lately by Mr. Bacon under the name of Liber Regis, and to the Rev. Mr. Hutchins's History of Dorset.

Of the CATHEDRAL of BRISTOL.

This church is dedicated to the Holy and undivided TRINITY; the seal of the Dean and Chapter formerly was The Trinity, the Son in the bosom of the Father on a cross with a dove at his ear; on the reverse the figure of Henry the 8th.—The gross impropriety of this representation of the Triune God, three agents in one Jehovah or Divine Essence, of the one God acting in three persons in the gracious plan and offices of man's redemption, induced them in 1624 to change their seal for three ducal coronets in pale, a saltier cross charged with three fleures de lis and a portcullis. See the plate of the cathedral.—It has belonging to it a dean, six prebendaries or major canons, six minor canons or priest vicars, (one of which is to be sacrist,) one deacon, six lay-clerks or singing-men, one master of the choristers, one sub-deacon, six choristers, two masters of the grammar-school, four alms-men, one sub-sacrist or sexton, one proctor who was to be the virger, one butler, two cooks; in all 39 by Henry the 8th's. foundation: though the places of the inferior members being of small value are seldom kept entirely filled as provided for in the statutes, which are mutatis mutandis the same with those of Gloucester and others of the new foundation.

The first Bishop was Paul Bush, and besides six major canons or prebendaries, six minor canons were then appointed at ten pounds per ann. for each minor canon; 6l. 13s. 4d. for the gospeller and episteller; the same for each of the six singing-men, and 10l. for the organist. In the old liber valorum in first edit. the deanry was rated at 100l. per ann. and each of the prebendaries at 20l. per ann. but the reserved rents alone of the dean and chapter estates amount now (1788) to 845l. per ann. which however scarcely pays the present expences of the church and officers, the salaries of the minor canons, organist, &c. now advanced; but the renewals of leases of estates on lives generally produce near 200l. per ann. to each prebendary and 400l. to the dean, though the amount must vary every year.

Besides the salaries to the officers of the church, Henry the 8th. has appointed by the statutes of foundation 20l. per ann. to be given among poor householders and other poor people, and 20l. per ann. to make and repair the highways; and he made in 1545 the chancellor of the court of augmentations, and dean of the royal chapel, and their successors and others commissioners to see this and otherlike benefactions out of the new-erected cathedral chapters duly paid every year, pat. 37th of Henry the 8th. p. 9 M. 25, (Rymer. Fœd. v. 15. p. 77, 78, 134.) A declaration from time to time of the bestow-

ing and employing the said money in alms and highways was to be delivered yearly into the court of augmentations by order of Edward the 6th. the first year of his reign, and the commissioners were to receive from the deans and chapters yearly 40 marks for their care and trouble herein.

According to the statutes the above-mentioned is the number of the officers, and it is put out of the power of the dean and chapter (bishop or archbishop) to innovate or alter any thing contained in the body of the statutes, sub pœnâ perjurii & amotionis perpetuæ ab ecclesiâ nostrâ, (saith the King,) reservamus tamen nobis & successoribus nostris potestatem mutandi &c.

The dean, "Qui semper domi apud suam ecclesiam præfideat &c." vid. stat. c. 4. et c. 8.

The six prebendaries, "Domi se continere & in ecclesiâ nostra semper residentes esse volumus." Stat. c. 12.

Six minor canons, "Quorum residentia sit perpetua, stat. c. 22. ad dei laudes in ecclesiæ nostræ Templo assidue decantandas constituimus." Stat. 21. c.

One deacon, one sub-deacon, "Qui evangelium & epistolam legent."

One præcentor, "Sit ex minoribus canonicis unus, officium ejus est in ecclesiâ nostra psallentes cum decano moderari et voce alios præcinere ac veluti Dux esse: absantias omnes notare: libros choro deputatos bene curare." Stat. c. 23.

Six choristers, "Vocibus sonoris et ad cantandum aptis. c. 25.

One organist, "Sit honestæ famæ, vitæ probæ, cantandi et organa pulsandi peritus, docendis pueris et divinis officiis cantandis studiose vacabit." c. 25.

It no where appears that the King or his successors have ever dispensed with or changed this number, or the respective duties of the places; and the benefits resulting from the strict observance of the statutes would be many and great in this and every other cathedral church, the open violation of them in some and neglect of them in others have been known to contribute much to the very ill performance of the service, lessening the congregation, ruin of the houses, decline of religion and piety, neglect of hospitality and charity, and many ancient good orders belonging to the churches.

In the endowment of this church the bishop had a large though not a very convenient house appropriated to him, adjoining to the cathedral, which was formerly the abbacy or abbot's lodgings: it opens into the east cloister and consists of several spacious apartments, many of which were well repaired and neatly fitted up by Bishop Smalridge; since his time it was suffered to go

to decay, but a late worthy and generous Bishop, Dr. Butler, in 1744, had great part of it taken down and rebuilt, at the expence of near 5000*l*.

Many of the apartments are large and ornamented in a grand manner, and the whole house is now exceedingly convenient, by means of the prebendaries receiving certain lands of his lordship, which lay behind the south side of Trinity-street for their's, which lay contiguous to his palace: this enabled him to add to the palace a handsome garden and walks. The chapel which is in the house is also very neatly repaired, and wainscoted with cedar: it is very small, being only fifteen feet long and eleven broad; in the windows is a great quantity of painted glass, which was lately repaired, and there is more in other parts of the house yet to be seen, with the names and arms of two or three of the last abbots and the first bishop. The whole fabric is a handsome and commodious dwelling, which his lordship and the succeeding bishops have made their place of residence for about five months in the year, during which time once a week they keep an open table for all the clergy and gentry: and Bishop Butler, in expending so large a sum upon the fabric of the palace then going to decay, which he knew himself should not long enjoy, shewed his most noble and generous spirit and proved him worthy of his high office.

In 1744, whilst the palace was rebuilding a parcel of plate fell through the floor in the corner of one of the rooms, which by this accident was found to be decayed, and occasioned the floor's being taken up, when to the surprize of the workmen a room appeared underneath, in which were found a great many human bones, and instruments of iron, it was supposed to punish the refractory and criminals. At the same time was discovered a private passage to this dungeon, originally constructed with the edifice, being an arched way just large enough for one person to pass in at a time made in the thickness of the wall, one end terminated in the dungeon, and the other in an apartment of the house, which by all appearance had been used as a court; but both entrances of this mural passage were walled up and so concealed that no one could suspect it to be any other than one solid thick wall.

The deanery which stands at the west end of the church appears to be a good house: it was repaired in the time of Dean Crefwick, and almost entirely rebuilt by Dean Warburton. The present yearly value of the deanery is estimated to be as good as the reserved rents of the bishopric. The six prebendaries have all houses within the cathedral limits, but not residing, they let them out at good rents. The minor canons and singing men are now destitute of habitations within the church precincts, though the chapter-books
for

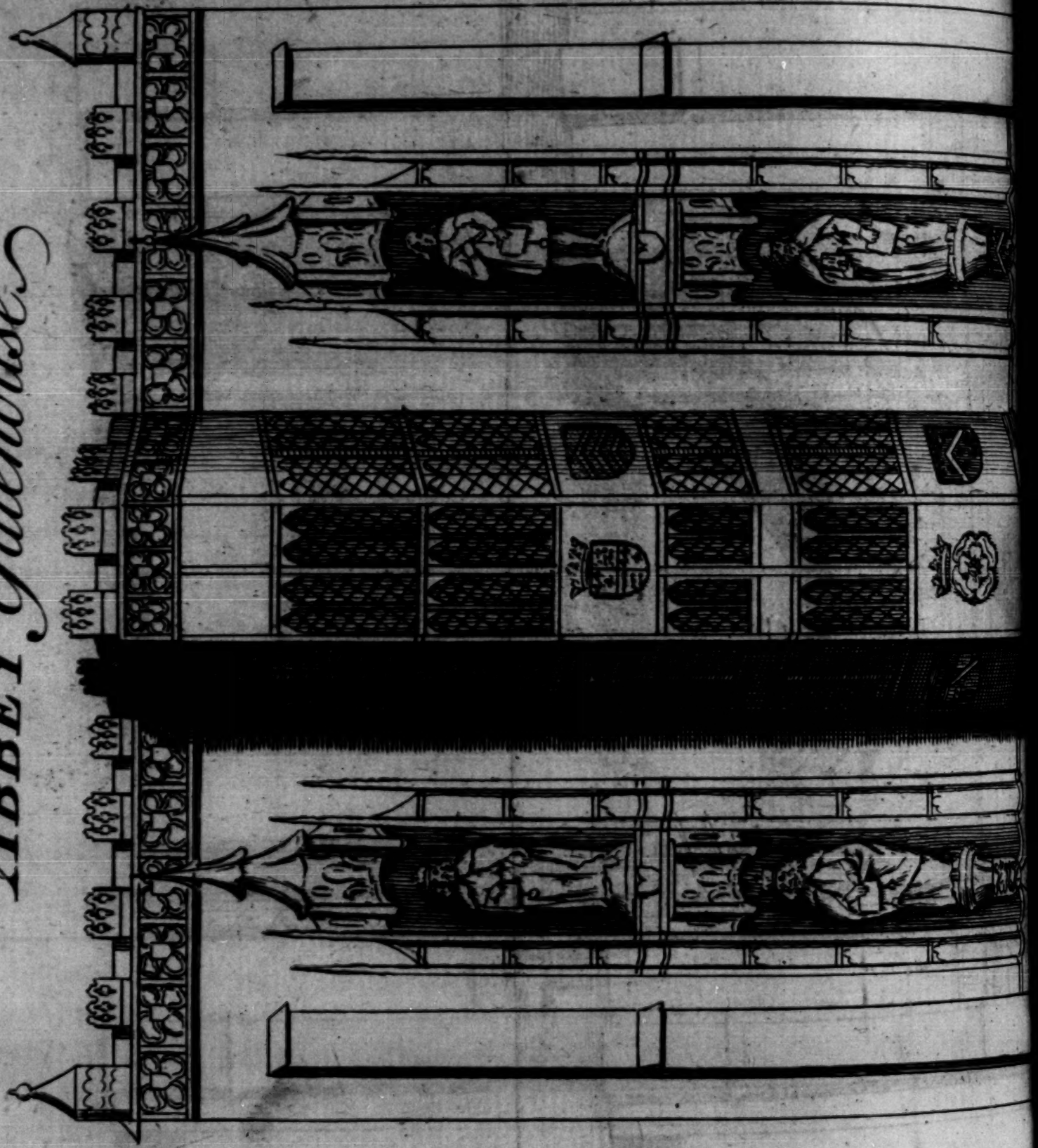
for 1529, folio 33, mention the petty canons' chambers in the inner green near the dean's gardens.

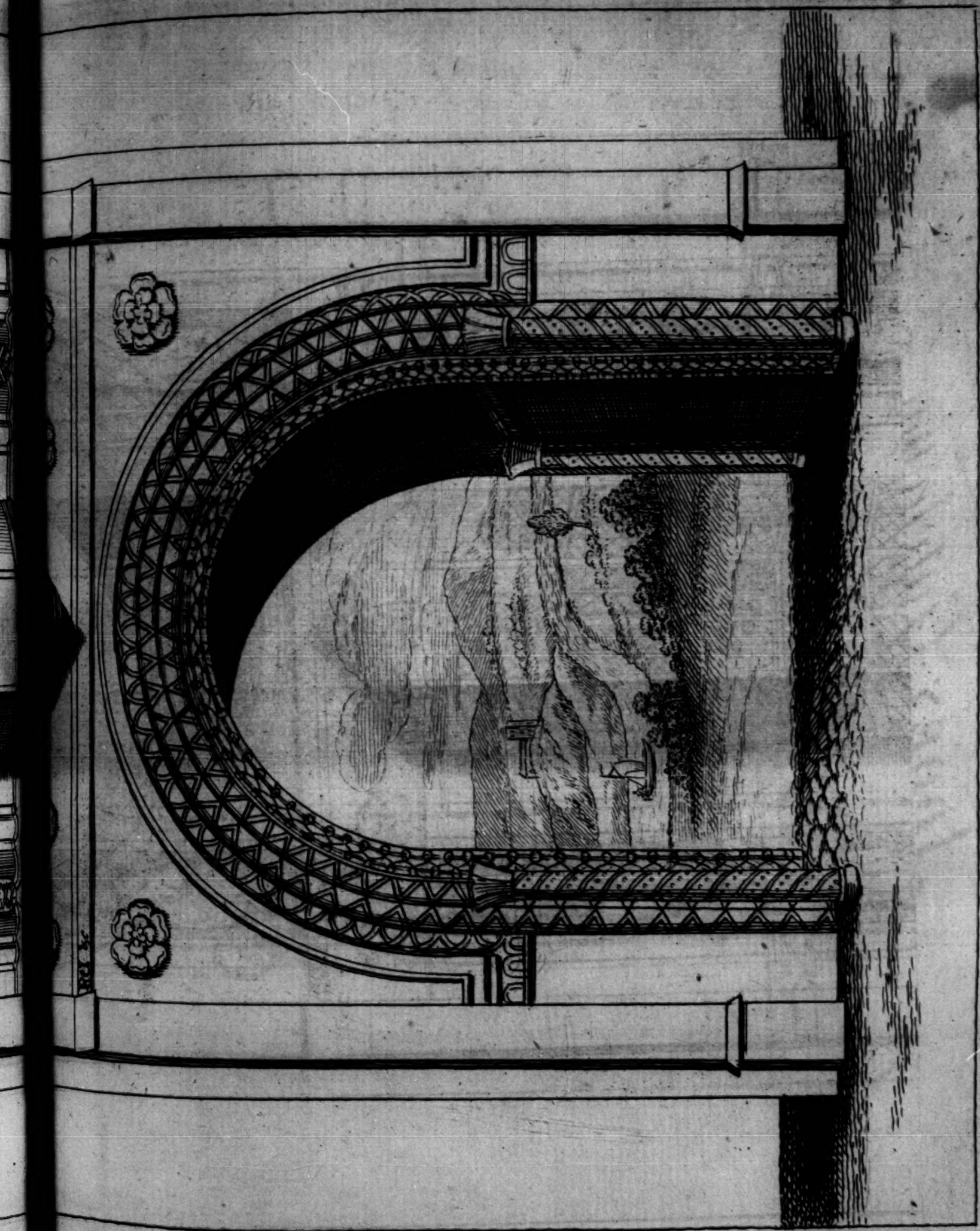
The west and south sides of the cloisters are pulled down, the site and extent of them are still to be seen. The east and north cloister would probably have been likewise demolished, but that the first leads into the chapter-house and bishop's palace. What remains of the cloister is covered with a sloped roof of stone like a shed, which was not the original roofing, that being formerly of lead. The whole formed an handsome and elegant square, but makes now a very mean appearance; for in the year 1655, Walter Deyos being mayor of Bristol, the lead was taken off from the cloisters as well as from the cathedral, and deposited in the chamberlain's hands; but a stop being put to any farther spoil, an order was made the 8th of January 1655, that the lead removed from the cathedral and cloisters adjoining should be sold, and laid out in the necessary repairs of the said cathedral. Tolzey Book, p. 99. This was the second pillage this cathedral has suffered since the general sack in Henry 8th's. reign. In the middle of the cloisters leading out of the church is an entrance into the chapter-house, which is a very elegant curious building, and has a very handsome stone roof of two arches, the pillars being adorned with curious twisted carved work in the Saxon stile of architecture, and it is in length 46 feet and in breadth 26 in the inside, and was as much in height till the floor was lately raised four feet by laying a deal floor above the pavement, to render it less damp and make it more convenient for the chapter's meeting upon business, which they now transact altogether here; and they have fitted up a press for their books and registers, and in place of the fine old circular window have put in four large modern sashes. There is set up over the door this inscription: "Capitularis hæc domus reparata et ornata fuit, A. D. 1713, Honorabili et Reverendo Roberto Booth, S. T. P. decano, Jacobo Harcourt, S. T. B. vice-decano, Hugone Waterman, A. M. thesaurario."

The square of the cloisters was 103 feet every way, there is a door yet leading out of the west part of the church. Adjoining to the deanery is a noble gate-house, remarkable for its well-turned arch and curious workmanship. (See the plate.)

This fine gate is in the stile of what Sir Christopher Wren calls the Saxon architecture, before the Gothic or rather Saracenic with pointed arches was introduced in this island after the crusades. The arch is of such curious workmanship, that words cannot possibly give any idea of it, the engraved plate but an imperfect one. The scrolls, twists, and other ornaments are so interwoven

ABBEY Gatehouse







interwoven and intricate, that the eye is puzzled in surveying them, and is at loss where to fix and trace them out. The sweep of the arch is very much admired, though by the ground's being rose by time its height is less, and so the proportion of it originally is in some respect injured by it. It has been very well preserved, and suffered very little by time. The rooms over the arch are of much later erection than the arch itself, being repaired and altered by the abbots, particularly by Abbot Newland alias Nailheart, who was a great builder, and in compliment to the founder of the monastery placed his effigy, with a model of the conventual church in one hand and the foundation charter in his other, in one of the niches over this arch, with the statue of Henry 2d. next him, and underneath them and just above the crown of the arch the following inscription, in Gothic letters, rising out of the stone: "Rex Henricus secundus et Dominus Robertus filius Hardingi filii Regis Daciæ hujus monasterii primi fundatores extiterunt." There is no date, and had the inscription been placed there at the very time of the erection of the monastery, 1148, no doubt but the date would have been added. On the south side are the statues in stone of the Abbots Newland and Elliot, in whose time, 1515, the rooms over the arch probably underwent some great alteration, who then fixed up their own figures there, and probably the Latin inscription. Instead of the present sash window there was formerly a projecting bow window with small squares of glass leaded; this I have preserved in the plate, as it was the original form of the building, and more suitable than the present; and a kind of turret of old was carried up on the back part of it, which was the antient stair case leading to the rooms over the gate; this has been destroyed by building a handsome house on the east side of it. On the west side is a postern, now shut up and used by the dean for a coach-house; over it is a room formerly the porter's lodge. There are several coats of arms carved in stone on both sides of this superb gate-house. On the north side at top is Edward the Confessor's carved, which points out the antiquity of this gate, and is preserved notwithstanding the alteration it has undergone; next it the arms of England crowned, and Richard de Clare Earl of Pembroke's, being chevronée of six or and gules, below Henry 2d. and Fitz-Harding's.

On the south side, besides the abbots in effigy and their arms under, are two figures above them, one the Virgin Mary and Child and the other I have not yet found the name of, nor of the two upper figures on the north side: they are abbots or noblemen who had been signal benefactors to the monastery.

In the rebellious time of 1641, among other ravages then committed and lands of the bishopric then sold was "the gate-house in Bristol sold March 6, 1649, to John Birch for the sum of 18l. 13s. 4d." as the palace and park were at the same time for the sum of 240l. to Thomas and John Clark.

This gate-house was leased out by the bishop to the Rev. Dr. Sloper, rector of Spetsbury and chancellor then of this diocese, who being a very charitable man, among other benefactions, left to the mayor and aldermen of Bristol his house in College-green, &c. in trust out of the rents to renew the leases from the Bishop of Bristol, to Mary Hort his niece 5l. and the remainder to buy minion bibles, to be distributed to poor families by the alderman of each ward, the number to be in proportion of the size of each ward. This house was sold, the bishop refusing to renew the lives for the corporation, who then put it into Chancery, and it was bought out of Chancery by Hugh Grove, Esq; whose nephew has lately renewed with the bishop. The corporation had the purchase money, and now dispose of the bibles purchased by the interest of the said money every three years.

The monastery or conventual church itself, though not to be extolled for elegance and but a plain structure, yet being situated on an hilly ground, if now compleat as in the print, would present a striking front and elevation.

William of Worcester, who surveyed this church about the year 1480, gives the following measurements: "The choir of St. Augustin in Bristol contains in length 64 steps beyond the chapel of St. Mary. The breadth of the nave of the choir with the two ailes contains 50 steps. The length and breadth of the square on every side contains 22 steps. The length of frayer-house 26 steps, its breadth 16. The length of the *old church* 80 steps, of the belfry 24, its breadth 64 steps. The length of the chapter-house 56 steps, its breadth 18." In another place he mentions, "The church of the canons of St. Augustin. The chapel of St. Mary contains in length 13 yards, its breadth $9\frac{1}{2}$ yards. The space or way of processions behind the principal altar before the chapel of St. Mary is 5 yards. The length of the choir from the reredes of the principal altar to the end of the choir contains 29 yards, beginning from the end of the aforesaid space. The breadth of the nave of the choir and the two ailes of the choir contains 24 yards. There is a decent chapel built on the north part of the aile of the choir containing in length *** yards."

We can collect but a very imperfect idea from these vague measurements. (Vide the print or ichnography.) The present cathedral, deprived as it is of its western part home to the tower, consists of the choir and the two side ailes,
all

all of equal height and part of the nave, curiously vaulted and the arched roof well supported, with a cross aisle, and so compleating but two parts of a cross. As it now stands unfinished, it is in length from east to west 175 feet, whereof the choir is 100 feet, but in its compleat state must have extended 100 feet farther westward. The length of the cross aisle from north to south is 128 feet. The height of the tower is 127 feet, which stands in the midst of this aisle (as it would in the middle of the church, if the western nave was finished) as it formerly stood. It has one singular beauty not to be met with in any other cathedral, namely, that the two side aisles are of equal height with the nave and choir, and finely arched and curiously supported, well calculated both for strength and beauty. The low side aisles of other cathedral churches take away much of their grand appearance and lofty look, so obvious in this at the first view. The breadth of the body and side aisles is 73 feet, and it is 43 feet to the height of the vaulting.

How the church presents to us this imperfect mutilated appearance now is a matter deserving enquiry. There is a tradition that the west part was demolished home to the tower in that great confusion in Henry 8th's. time, and the materials sold and disposed of, before that King had determined to convert it into a cathedral and a bishop's see. As there is no record to establish this fact, others have thought it was never finished: the builders of churches are said first to establish the whole plan of their building, then begin at the altar or east part, using that for the religious service till by degrees they could compleat the whole. Whether they stopt this building after finishing the tower is the question. That this is not the first church erected on this spot, or the same that was built by Robert Fitzharding the first founder, appears from a deed I met with in the Lib. Alb. Wygorn, 6. f. 20. for in the year 1311 the church of Wotton was appropriated by the Bishop of Worcester to the monastery of St. Augustin, which was then much decayed, and their revenue reduced by the expences in rebuilding their church, sumptuously built of old by their pious founders, but then through age for the most part pulled down and the remainder ruinous: in repairing which and in rebuilding they had spent much and ought to expend much more in the work newly begun. For the relief of these expences and their other great necessities, the bishop appropriated to them the church of Wotton, &c." (Dated at London, 11 kal. July, 1311.) The original says, "*Quod ecclesia ejusdem monasterii a piis ipsius fundatoribus antiquis temporibus ad cultum divinum opere sumptuoso constructa dudum propter ipsius antiquitatem et debilitatem pro majori parte funditus diruta, in parte residua gravem minatur ruinam; ad cujus fabricæ re-*

N N

taurationem

taurationem plures sumptus appofuerunt et ampliores apponere oportebit in opere ibidem noviter inchoato, &c."

In the year 1363, in the time of Maurice Lord Berkeley, the fourth of that name, a contributor, it was greatly repaired and partly rebuilt, as appears by another deed; by which it is clear, that the whole building and reparations it had undergone were not compleated till about that time, 40th Edward 3d. — William of Worcester mentioning the length of the old church 80 steps is another proof that there had been fuch an old church before his time, 1480, and before the present was erected.

In the lives of the abbots (p. 267.) it is faid Edmund Knowles (who was abbot 26 years) begun building the present church anew from the ground, &c. and that he died 1332, which compared with the deeds above, dated 1311 and 1363, fhews by the length of time the building was carrying on, that it muft have been probably compleated in that time, and the ruins at the western part (where tenements with gardens were fuffered to be erected to increafe the dean and chapter's revenue) feem to prove that part to have been pulled down, and a large ftone at the end of one of the garden walls evidently points out the extent of the whole building, and was the western boundary ftone of this plain but magnificent abby church; but whether thefe be the ruins of the old or firft built church, or of the later erected one by Abbot Knowles, may be ftill an object of doubt with fome, and not eafily folved by any. It is certain fome remains of Gothic arches beyond the tower ftill fhew the church was once continued to the weftward.

The beft idea of the fabric may be formed from a view of the copper-plate print, which represents it as compleat, though from the tower to the western end be at prefent wanting. It was at one time in very bad repair, but it appears that in the year 1670 1311 l. were laid out on the fabric and prebendal houfes, and that in the years 1681 and 1685 in the deanries of Towgood and Levett 300l. or more was laid out in mending the floor and beautifying the church, painting the eaft end of the choir and other works, and making a fine timber cafe for the new organ, erected by the contibution of the dean and chapter and many other well difpofed perfons in the time of Bifhop Wright, about the year 1630, at the expence of 550l. in the whole to Mr. Renatus Harris, organ-builder. The ftalls of the choir, 34 in number, (17 on each fide) are very regular, and fitted up about 1542, when it was made a cathedral, and have pews under them of a modern make. There is a grand feat for the bifhop, erected by Paul Bufh the firft bifhop, (his arms being on it) and another oppofite for the archdeacon of Dorfet. The floor is laid with black and white marble, and you go up to the high altar by fteps of the fame, where the
large

large east window is adorned with curious Gothic tracery-work, and glazed with painted glass, on the top the King's arms (Henry 2d.) the Berkeley's of Berkeley and of Stoke Gifford, also chevernois of 6 or and G. f. argent on a canton G. a rose proper, for Abbot Bradstone, also for Hunt and Elliot, also f. argent three lozenges in fess gules, also several figures of men with propheta wrote on them in a scroll.

Edward Colston, Esq; gave 260l. towards beautifying the choir and laying the marble about the communion-table, &c. Above the communion-table, and at the bottom of the east window, are a variety of painted arms with the letters W. B. interspersed, for William Burton the abbot, who is said to have built the altar piece, which was afterwards gilded and repaired by the Deans Towgood and Levet; on each side are two large shields of arms, Henry the 2d. and Lord Berkeley's on the right, King Henry the 2d. and Clare Earl of Pembroke's on the left.

In several places of the wainscot of the choir and on the front of the Bishop's seat are the letters T. W. twisted together in a cypher, which some say have been placed there in compliment to Cardinal Wolsey, but the truth is, they were for Thomas Wright, who in 1541 was appointed Receiver-general of the Chapter at their first foundation, and had the ordering of their officers and fitting up of this church for a cathedral, and took care to set up his cypher in all parts, as Abbot Newland and Elliot had done before him and shewed him the example.

In the North aisle is a curious painted glass window and another in the South, the first represents in different compartments the house of prayer, with *Domus mea domus orationis*, and driving the sellers out of the Temple; Our Saviour answering, "*reddite Cæsari, reddite deo*;" Jacob's ladder, &c. with coats of arms at the bottom: the second represents Our Saviour in the garden, his resurrection from the tomb, his ascension, Abraham about to offer up Isaac, Jonah coming forth from the belly of the great fish prepared for him, Elijah in his fiery chariot; these are said to be given to this church by Nell Gwyn mistress to Charles the 2d.

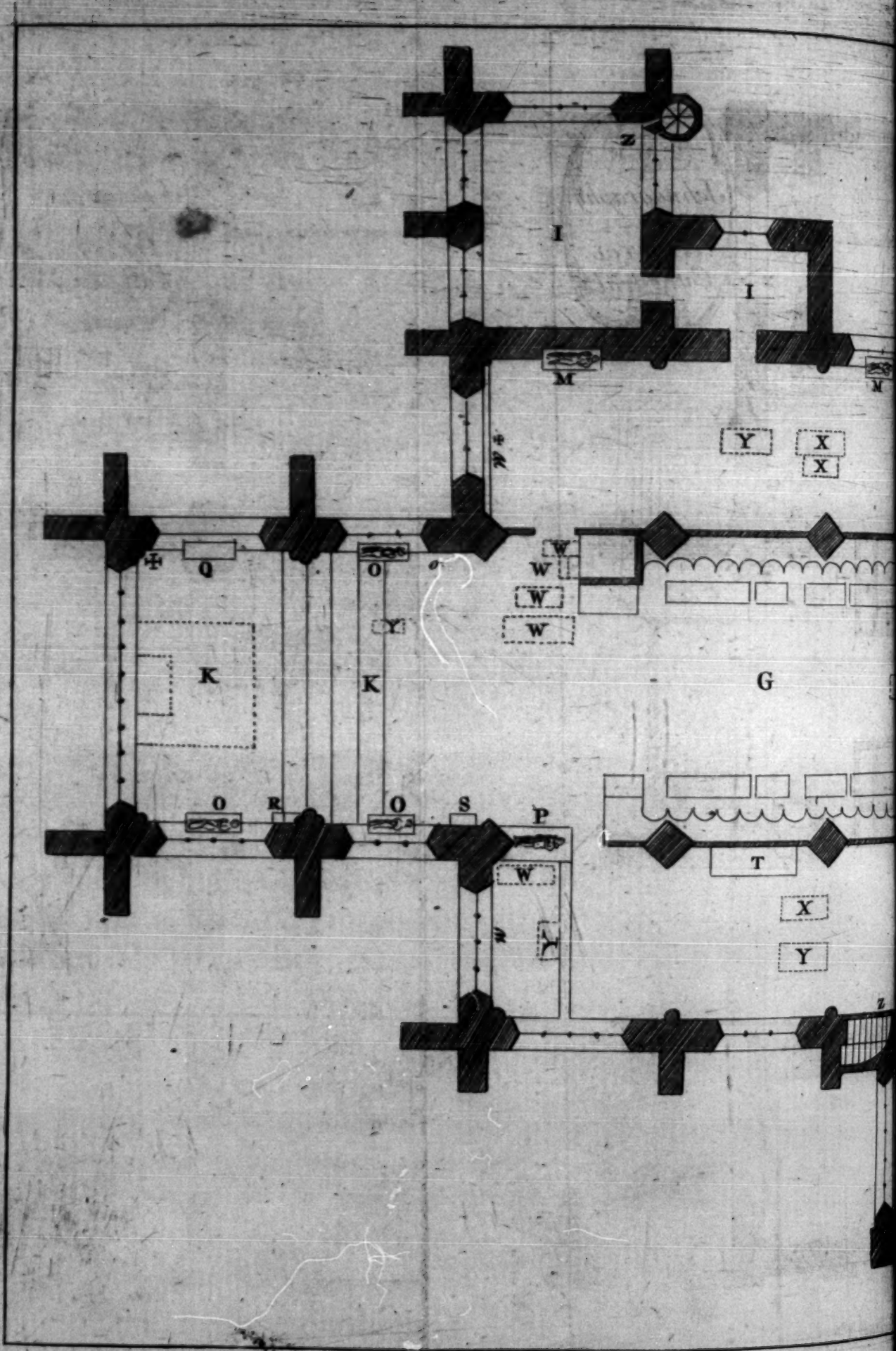
On the East and South side of the church is a chapel of the Virgin Mary; an arch adorned with shields with a chevron only, (the ancient bearing of Fitzhardings before they added the ten crosses patee,) is now filled up, but when opened communicated through with the South aisle, and was the place of burial for some of the family; the very bricks on the floor of this chapel have their arms burnt on them and some arms of the abbots also; it seems to be appropriated chiefly to the use of the Berkeley family; it is now the vestry.

There was given to this cathedral some plate for the communion service the 10th of June 1710 by Lady Loyd, a silver patin gilt and silver chalice gilt, with the arms of the cathedral engraved on them: and the 3d of August 1712 John Rumsey Esq; presented to this church a pair of large silver candlesticks, very high and weighty, they cost him 114l. and were taken in 1709 by the Duke and Dutchess ships of war in their expedition to the South Seas at Paita by Capt. Woods Rogers.

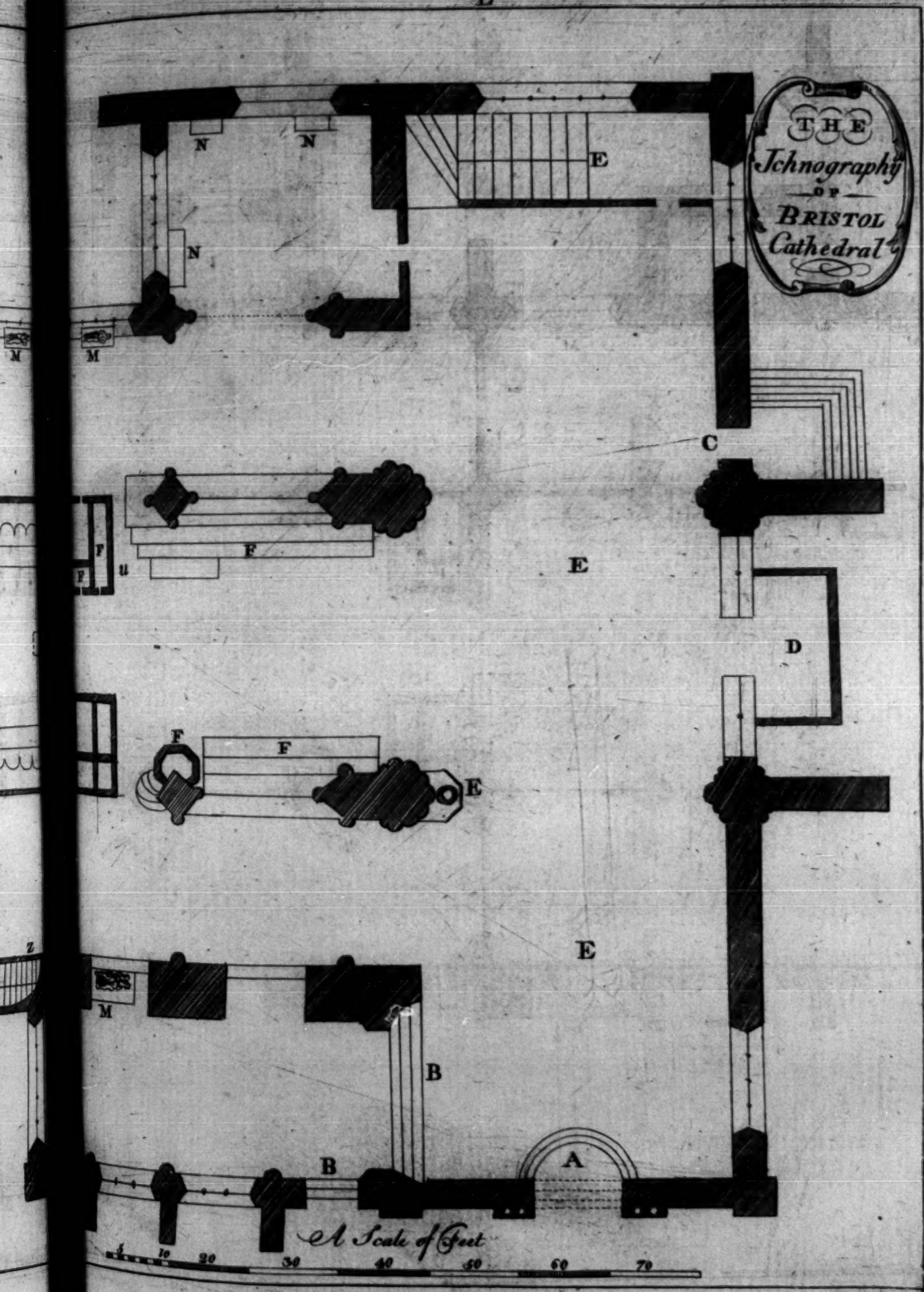
The tower is a strong square building, not very high but well proportioned to the size and height of the church; in it hang five bells, the four least were cast by Abbot Newland, who died in the year 1515, as appears by the initial letters of his name upon them *J. N.* three of them bear these inscriptions, *Sancte Clemens, sancta Margarita, sancta Catharina ora pro nobis*, on the fourth is this, *Clara vocor & clarior ero*; the biggest has this date, 1570 upon it, 13th Q. Eliz. Here were designed to be five more as appears by five more vacant frames, out of which there is a tradition the bells were stolen, but others say, they were sold to the church of Redclift.

The following Ichnography presents to the eye the inside of the present cathedral, better than any words can describe it, the letters of reference pointing out particulars. A. the great North door leading down steps into the cathedral out of the College-green, the ground having in time been greatly rose before it. B. The way into the Elder Lady-chapel and steps. C. The door leading into the Cloisters, Chapter-house and Bishop's palace. D. The sub-sacrist's vestry built on the imperfect part of the church. E. The great cross aisle, font and stair-case to the consistory and register's office. F. The stone pulpit, seats of the bishop, dean, prebendaries, and corporation of Bristol. G. The choir with seventeen stalls on each side. H. The bishop's throne and the archdeacon of Dorset's stall. I. The vestry and sealing-house, formerly St. Mary's chapel for the Berkeley's. K. The high altar and steps to it. L. The site of the chapter-house, which opens to the Cloisters. M. Tombs of Lords Berkeley. N. Tombs of Sir Richard Newton, or of Judge Newton, temp. Hen. 6th. of Sir John and Sir Henry Newton. O. Tombs of abbots &c. P. Bishop Paul Bush's tomb. Q. Tomb of Sir John Young and his Lady. R. Monument of Bishop Searchfield and Dean Chetwynd. S. Codrington's monument. T. Tomb of Sir Charles Vaughan. U. The place of the founder's grave-stone now removed to letter u. W. Grave-stones of Bishops Howel, Westfield and Ironside. X. Grave-stones of Dean Tomson, Crossman and Towgood. Y. Grave-stones of prebendaries

[Faint, illegible handwriting]



THE
Ichnography
OF
BRISTOL
Cathedral





bendaries Saul, Rainstorp and Towgood. Z. Stair-cafes of the church.
 † Mrs. Weeks' monument.

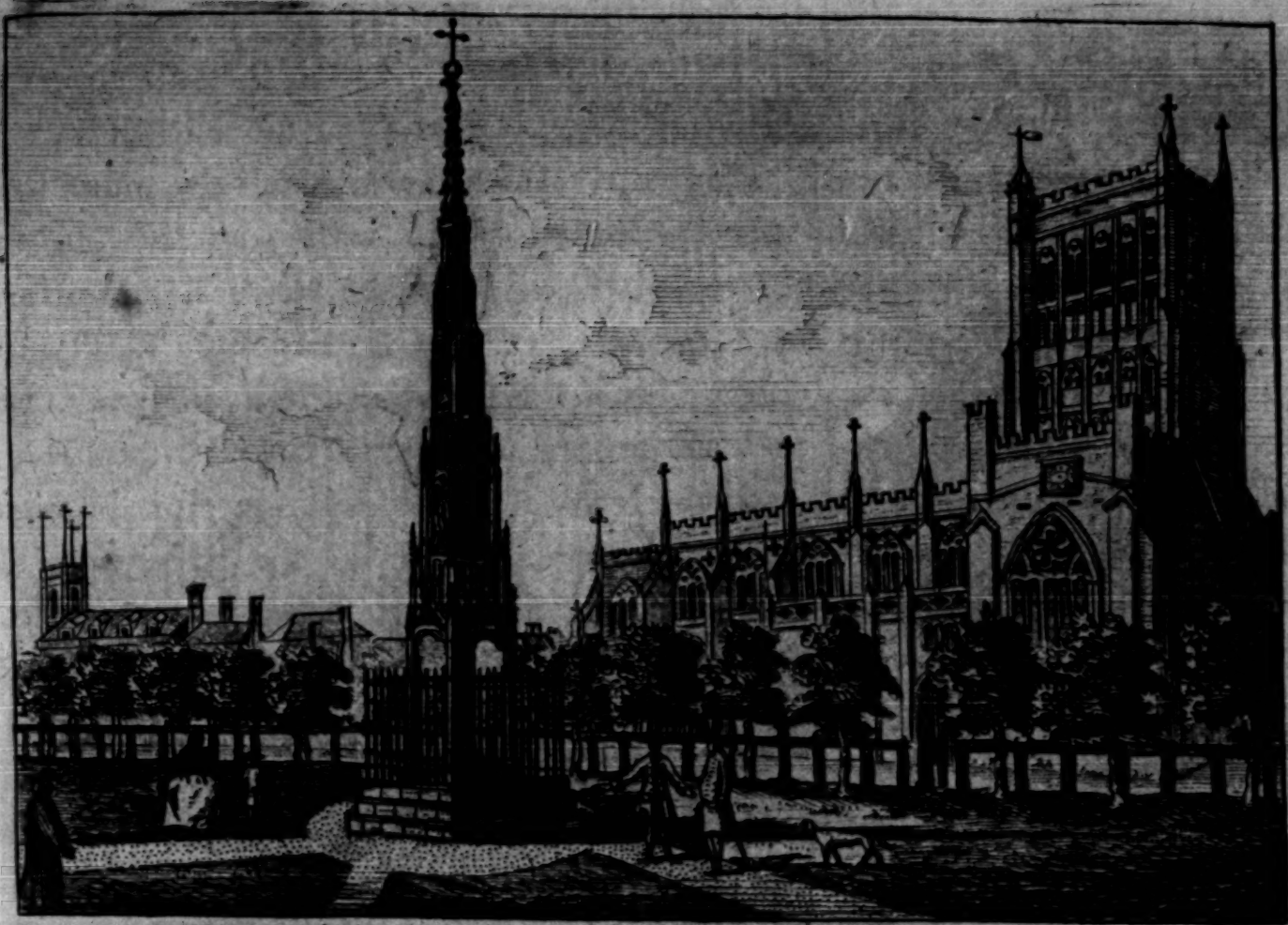
On the North fide is a small aile called the Elder Lady-chapel, in distinction to another Lady-chapel at the East and South end of the church.—This on the North fide appears to have been part of the old church before it was rebuilt by Abbot Knowles, being much lower than the rest of the church.—The style of the architecture in the pillars, ceiling and windows being quite different from the remainder of the church; and the name seems to confirm its antiquity: the chapel also where the Newton family are interred and chapter-house seem also to be of the old foundation; as do the Cloisters though altered, part of the Bishop's-palace and the building next to it, being the remains of the common hall, refectory or dining-room of the monks. From this specimen of the architecture in the Elder Lady-chapel we may form a good idea of the first monastery church; the neatness of the black marble pillars with which it was adorned, and the arched roof shews it to have been a very rich and elegant Gothic building. Though the fine arch itself of the gateway leading into the abby (now the Lower Green) was of the old foundation, yet the upper part over it appears to be of more modern date; the statues of the late abbots Elliot and Newland, alias Nailheart, with their arms being placed in niches over it are a proof, as before observed: they retained in the new-erected church as much as they possibly could of the old that would serve their purpose, though it was but little, without destroying the symmetry and proportion of the whole; yet there still remains enough to shew us that the present is of a new and later erection than the original foundation building, if records had been wanting to prove it.—In a manuscript of Bishop Littleton in the library of the Society of Antiquarians, is the following account: “The cathedral appears to be of one and the same style of building throughout, and no part older than King Edward the 1st.'s time, though some writers suppose the present fabrick was begun in King Stephen's time, but not a single arch, pillar or window agrees with the mode which prevailed at that time. Indeed the lower part of the chapter-house walls, together with the door-way and columns at the entrance of the chapter-house I should pronounce of that age, or rather prior to King Stephen's reign, being true Saxon architecture. The inside walls of the chapter-house have round ornamental arches intersecting each other like those in St. Nicholas's chancel, Warwick, which was part of the old Saxon nunnery church. The great gate-way leading into the College-green is round, arched with mouldings richly ornamented in the Saxon taste.—*Query*. If this part of the gate-way be not coeval with Fitzharding

harding founder of St. Augustine's, temp. Hen. 1st. but the inscription and upper part of the gate where the images are placed are far more modern."

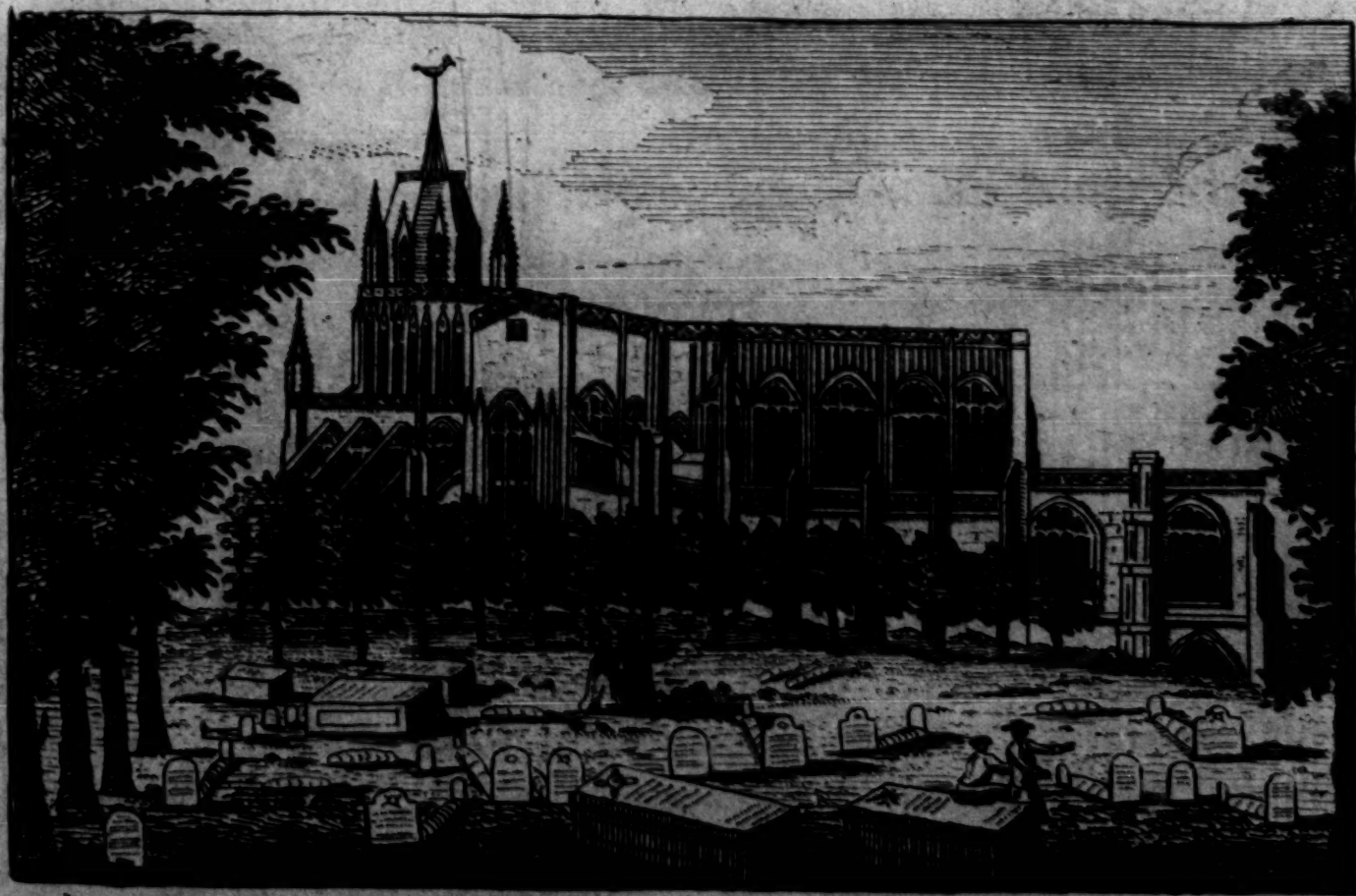
The College-green which fronts the cathedral and adds very much to the beauty of the place, is laid out in pleasant walks with rows of lime-trees planted round it, and is the residence of many genteel families, and resorted to by others for walking on account of its airy and delightful situation, (*propter loci amœnitatem*, as expressed in a deed as early as the year 1259.) The Bristol High Cross, which once graced the center of it, (as appears by the little print annexed,) was removed from High-street hither, for the sake of widening the street and rendering it more commodious for passengers; and here it remained for years much admired by all, especially by strangers visiting this city, till wanting repairs from the injury of the weather, Dean Barton ordered it to be given to Mr. Hoar at Stourton, to adorn his elegant gardens, (where the dean's brother was rector of the place.) It is to be wished such a curious local piece of antiquity had remained still here and been repaired occasionally, as a monument of the piety and gratitude of our ancestors to the several Princes who had given charters of liberties to the city: *vid.* chap. on All-Saints parish.

This green, however beautiful now and the resort of the gay, the beaux and belles of Bristol to walk in as the Mall is in London, was formerly the common burying-place of the dead, called in old deeds the cemetery of the abbot and convent, by whom a solemn procession was usually made around it on festival days, and religious rights performed and sermons preached at the great cross (before the erection of the Bristol High Cross there) at Easter yearly and the three following days. There have been found here tomb-stones, and skulls and bones dug up when the new houses were built on the Gaunts side; and at digging up the old trees the 9th of Henry the 7th. the like bones were thrown up, and more lately in mending the walks and erecting the rails.

I proceed next to the monuments of this cathedral. The piety of our ancestors was such that they were not content to rely on their daily devotions and other religious acts in their life time for the safety of their souls, but they made what they simply thought a provision for their souls after their decease, by establishing chantries, obiits, &c. whilst their children have receded so much from the ways of their fathers, that negligent too often of their religious duties to their God, they seem to pay too, too little attention or care for their souls even in their life time, much less take any thought for their souls or those of their departed relations or friends after their death. But they have been
more



A VIEW of the HIGH CROSS and CATHEDRAL CHURCH.
 from the North side of College Green.



A VIEW of REDCLIFT CHURCH.
 on the South side with part of the Church Yard



more solicitous about depositing the dead bodies of their relations and friends, and erecting tombs over them; whether it be from a desire of conveying to posterity the names of their family, or from a religious persuasion and hope of meeting them again in another life, such monuments or memorials have their use and must not be condemned, as is too much the case in this age of levity and affectation of more enlightened understandings than their ancestors.

The monuments and inscriptions worthy of notice are chiefly the following:

On the north side in the Elder Lady-chapel, which is 50 feet long, 18 wide, and the same high, under an arch is an altar tomb with the statues in freestone in full length of Maurice Lord Berkeley and Margaret his mother, or rather of Elizabeth his wife, according to some manuscripts, with the family arms on his surcoat G. a chevron between ten crosses patee argent. At the head of this monument is the following inscription on a table under the arch, placed the rein 1742,—“To the memory of Robert Fitzharding, who laid the foundation of this church, he lies buried with his lady at the choir entrance, * over whom in the arch of the door-way is a lively representation of the latter judgment. — The monument of Robert Fitzharding Lord of Berkeley, descended from the Kings of Denmark, and Eva his wife, by whom he had five sons and two daughters: Maurice his eldest son was the first of this family who took the name of Berkeley. This Robert Fitzharding laid the foundation of this church and monastery of St. Augustin in the year 1140, the 5th of King Stephen, dedicated and endowed it in 1148, and he died in the year 1170, 17th Henry 2d. From the said Robert Fitzharding Lord Berkeley Augustus the present Earl is the 22d in descent.”

Near the north door is a very elegant monument against the west wall for Mrs. Draper, celebrated by Sterne under the name of Eliza. Genius and Benevolence are represented by two beautiful female figures, in which the sculptor has exerted his utmost skill. The following is the inscription: — “Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Draper, in whom Genius and Benevolence were united. She died August 8, 1778, aged 35.”

Against the pillar near it is another with an inscription to Mr. Wallis.

In the north aisle are grave-stones with Latin inscriptions, to James Harcourt, prebendary, who died 1739, aged 59, and of his wife, who died 1733, aged 39, and four children.

Another to Richard Towgood, dean, thus:—*Hic situs est Richardus Towgood, S. T. B. hujus ecclesiæ favente Carolo primo prebendarius nec non*
parochiæ

* In the year 1684 Dean Thompson ordered the two large stones which once had brass plates set into them and were then much worn out, to be removed hence under the Dean's seat in the body of the church, where they may be seen in part now.

parochiæ St. Nicolai (dictæ) concionator egregius et frequens, et practicam et scholasticam theologiam apprime calluit : utrumque nescias an melius intellexerit an candidiùs impertiverit : flagrante bello civili ab exulceratis civibus ecclesia pulsus est, et quod factioni displicuerit (cui nefas esset placuisse) in carcerem detrusus, restitutâ monarchiâ ad curam revocatus, atq; haud ita post favente Carolo filio ad Decanatûs dignitatem provectus est ; cui summâ cum prudentiâ et moderatione præfuit, insulam mervisse contentus. Postquam per totam vitam, erga Deum, regem, ecclesiam, patriam, se integerrimè gesserat desideratissimus senex (oraculorum sacrorum circiter 60 annos in hac civitate laboriosus idem et fælicissimus interpret) dierum satur in cœlum migravit Aprilis 21, anno ætat. s. 89, Sal. n. 1683. Elizabetha uxor in eodem tumulto sepulta jacet quæ obiit Novembris 22, 1685.

Near this are the following : — Here lies Mary Blagdon, daughter of Elizabeth Towgood, wife of Richard Towgood, Dean of this church, who departed this life Sept. 1699.

Richardus Towgood, A. M. hujus ecclesiæ præbendarius Richardi Towgood ejusdem ecclesiæ Decani juxta inhumati meritisque laudibus ornati filius, paternas virtutes, pietatem, fidem, constantiam, hæreditario quasi jure vindicavit, perantiquæ morum integritatis vir ac per omnia tempora sui simillimus, desideratus est 11 Oct. anno ætatis 59, salutis 1713, cum eodem intumulata jacet uxor Elizabetha, quæ mortalitatem exiit 19 Augusti, 1726.

Near the above is placed the following inscription : — In memory of her renowned ancestors, Richard Towgood, S. T. B. Dean of this church the grandfather, and Elizabeth his wife, Richard Towgood, M. A. prebendary, the father and Elizabeth his wife ; Mrs. Elizabeth Towgood the daughter, and last of the family, caused this monument to be erected, who, having inherited the virtues of her forefathers, and exhibited the same illustrious pattern of unaffected piety, undissembled charity, and unfulled integrity, to the 77th year of her age, followed them to the mansions of eternal rest Jan. 24, 1767.

Next the above is a pyramidal table on which is a bas-relief head of the deceased, and the following inscription : — “ William Powell, Esq; one of the pantentees of the Theatre-Royal, Covent Garden, died 3d of July, 1769, aged 33 years. His widow caused this monument to be erected, as well to perpetuate his memory as her own irretrievable loss of the best of husbands :

Bristol ! to worth and genius ever just,
To thee our Powell's dear remains we trust :
Soft as the streams thy sacred springs impart,
The milk of human kindness warm'd his heart ;

That

That heart, which every tender feeling knew,
The soil, where pity, love, and friendship grew :
Oh! let a faithful friend with grief sincere
Inscribe his tomb, and drop the heartfelt tear,
Here rest his praise, here found his noblest fame,
All else a bubble or an empty name.

G. COLEMAN.

Opposite is a neat monument;

"To the memory of Elizabeth Wastfield, who died at the Hotwells the 26th December 1770, aged 60, wife of Robert Wastfield, Esq; of Mile-End near London, this monument from a just sense of her merit and of his own loss is erected by her disconsolate husband.

Dear shade, adieu! the debt of Nature's paid!
Death's threaten'd stroke we parry'd but in vain;
The healing spring no more could lend its aid,
Med'cine no more could mitigate the pain.

See by her dying form mild Patience stand,
Hope, Ease, and Comfort, in her train she led:
See! gentle spirits, waiting the command,
Hush her to Silence on the mournful bed.

In vain with heartfelt grief I mourn my friend,
Fair Virtue's meed is bliss without alloy:
Blest change! for pain, true pleasure without end,
For sighs and moans, a pure seraphic joy!
When Death shall that new scene to me disclose,
When I shall quit on earth this drear abode,
Our freed congenial spirits shall repose
Safe in the bosom of our Saviour-God.

In the same aisle is an handsome mural monument with the following inscription:—" Mary, the daughter of William Shermon, of Kingston upon Hull, Esq; and wife of the Rev. William Mason, died March 24, 1767, aged 28.

Take, holy Earth! all that my soul holds dear,
Take that best gift, which Heaven so lately gave;
To Bristol's fount I bore with trembling care
Her faded form; she bow'd to taste the wave

O o

And

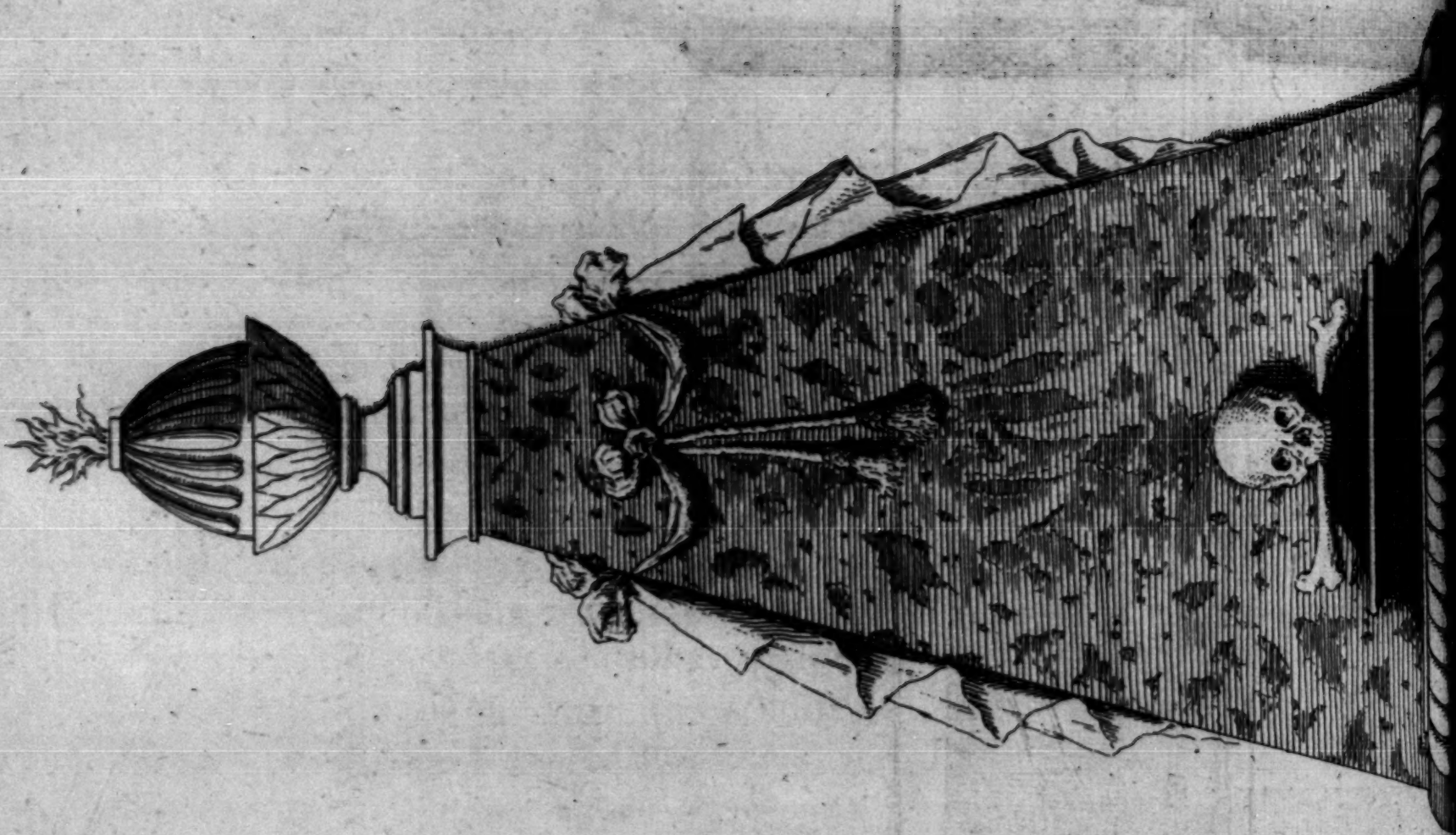
And dy'd. Does youth, does beauty read the line?
 Does sympathetic fear their breasts alarm?
 Speak, dead Maria! breath a strain divine;
 Ev'n from the grave thou shalt have power to charm;
 Bid them be chaste, be innocent like thee;
 Bid them in duty's sphere as meekly move;
 And if so fair, from vanity as free,
 As firm in friendship, and as fond in love:
 Tell them, though 'tis an awful thing to die,
 ('Twas ev'n to thee) yet the dread path once trod,
 Heav'n lifts its everlasting portals high,
 And bids "the pure in heart behold their God."

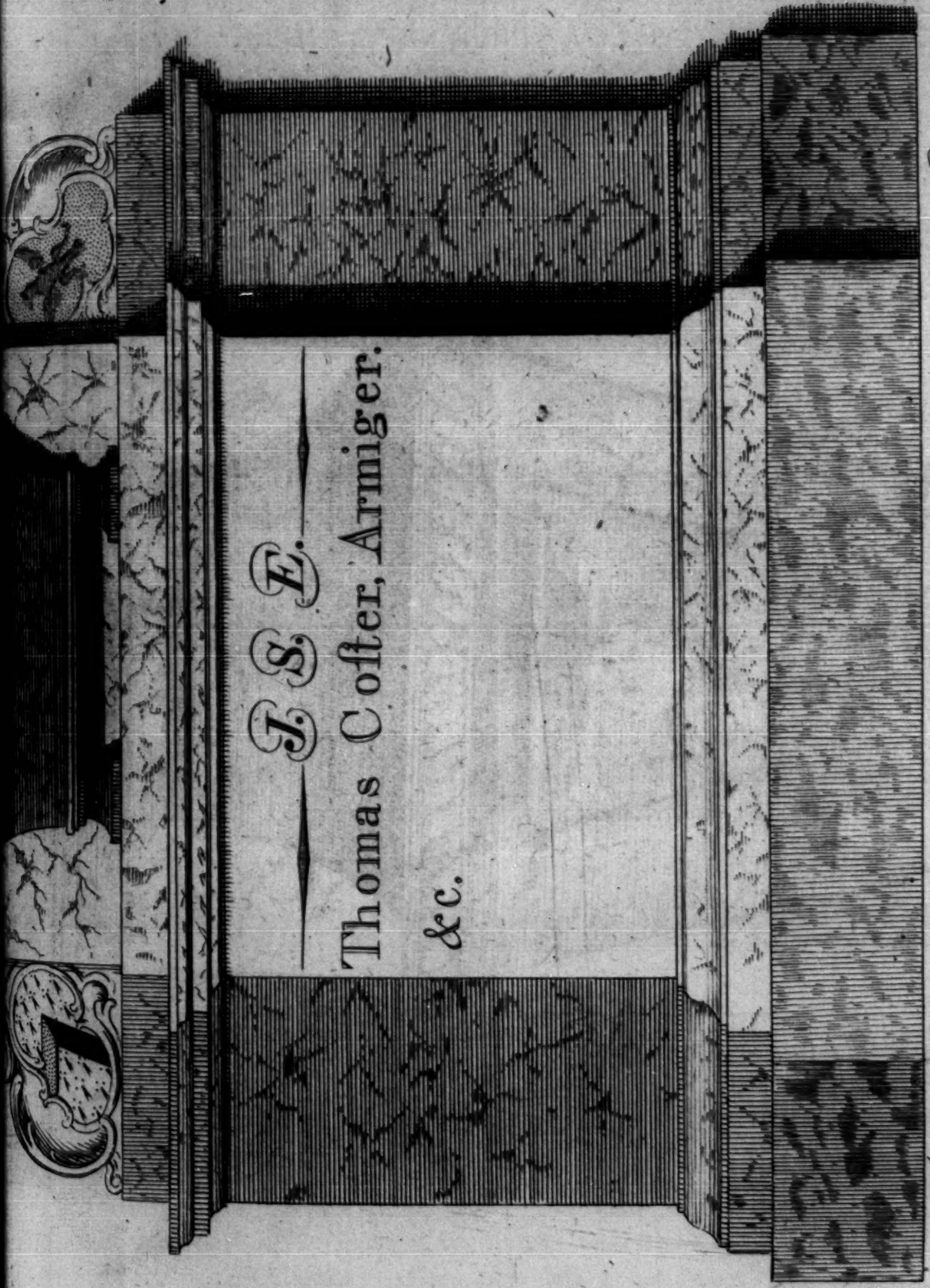
Next this is a raised tomb of alabaster and freestone gilt, with two marble pillars supporting a canopy; between the pillars is the statue of a man in armour: at the top these arms: s. a chevron between three children's heads coupé at the shoulders argent, their perukes or, enwrapped about the neck with as many snakes proper, by the name of Vaughan: motto, "Christi servitus vera libertas," with a long Latin inscription to the memory of Sir Charles Vaughan: — "Sacrum memoriæ prinde ac honori viri prænobilis, cujus hic exuviæ repulverescunt, Caroli Vaughan equitis aurati, filii et hæredis Gaulteri, ordinis itidem equestris; ex antiquissima Vaughanorum Cambro-Britannorum prosapiâ oriundi, qui quadraginta circiter et septem annos in terris agens, postquam virtute suis præluxisset, eruditione doctissimis quibusque innotuisset, religione plerisque exemplo fuisset, amoris conjugalis specimen edidisset, munera publica integerrime obiisset, res privatas sapienter composuisset, ac animæ saluti imprimis consulisset; tandem, marcore et phthise confectus, mori desiit, Februarii die sexto decimo anno spei suæ nostrumq; omnium per Verbum carnem factum adfertæ millesimo sexcentesimo tricesimo MDCXXX. Exspecto donec veniat immutatio mea. Job xiv. Omnia mutantur nihil interit."

On two tables under him are also the following Latin inscriptions:

Vxores duxit primo Franciscam filiam Roberti Knolles, equitis aurati quæ genere formâ et virtute illustris verum moribunda deseruit mortalitatem; quocitius et Arctius Christo frueretur vitâ vitali, ætatis suæ anno vicesimo quarto et redemptionis humanæ 1614:

Deinde Dorotheam filiam Roberti Melleri equitis aurati, quæ marito charissimo mæsta ac (ni deus voluisset) invitè superstes monumentum hoc, quale vides, ad memoriam ejus, quam fieri potest diutissime conservandam propriis sumptibus poni curavit.





The Monument of THOMAS COSTER Esq.^r



At the upper end of the north aisle is a very handsome monument to Thomas Coster, Esq; formerly member of parliament for this city, with the following elegant inscription. He married Astrea, daughter of Sir John Smyth, of Long Ashton, Bart. left one daughter by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Rous, Esq; of Wotton-Underedge; she married Robert Hoblyn, Esq; of Cornwall, member for Bristol, 1742, and erected this monument to the memory of her father.

I. S. E.

Thomas Coster, Armiger
 Virtutibus tum privatis
 Tum publicis præter cæteros insignis,
 Suos studio et amore,
 Homines quoscunque benevolentia,
 Deum O. M. egregia pietate
 Prosequebatur:
 Ad variam scientiam,
 In machinamentis præcipue et metallis,
 Perspicaci ingenio,
 Ad opes industriâ,
 Ad honorem probis moribus,
 Viam munivit.
 A Bristolienfibus
 Ad Senatorii ordinis dignitatem
 Sine ambitione, sine invidia evectus
 Eandem summâ fide sustinuit
 Suorum civium et totius reipublicæ bono.
 Natus Decembris 20, 1684,
 Sept. 30, 1739, morte luctuosâ abreptus;
 Omnibus quibus innotuit,
 Sui desiderium reliquit,
 Illi vero longe tristissimum,
 Quæ optimi patris memor
 Virtutum ejus (quarum exemplar ut
 Posteris quam diutissimè prodesset)
 Memoriam, hoc marmore posito,
 Æternam voluit

I. H.

In

Under the east window and by the side of Bishop Paul Bush is the grave stone of Thomas Westfeild, late bishop of this church, with his and his wives' arms on the same; the inscription is in the account of that bishop.

The next under the north wall is: — "Here lieth the body of Mrs. Anne Throckmorton, daughter of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, late of the forest of Dean, in the county of Gloucester, Knight. She died the 9th of December, 1698."

In the choir below the altar steps are grave-stones with these inscriptions, on a black stone by the door of the chancellor's stall: — "Quod reliquum est piissimæ virginis et charissimæ filiæ Hermiones, Thomas Goodman, M. D. pater, non sine multis lachrymis, sub hoc marmore deposuit: heu! nimis arcto carcere pro tanta virtute, cujus sedes est cœlis. Placidè in Domino obdormivit 11 Aug. anno salutis MDCCXXIV. ætatis 27. Sub eodem marmore sepelitur Thomas Goodman, M. D. pater senex venerabilis octogenarius

Gulielmo III.

Annæ,

Georgio I.

Georgio II.

} Medicus regius, obiit Dec. xxiii.

MDCCXXXVIII.

On an old white stone thus: — "Sub hac petra tumulantur ossa quondam prior' qui obiit vii. Id. Martii, A. D. MCCCCLXXVI. cujus animæ propitiatur altissimus. Amen." Another was, "Hic jacet Margareta Grene, mater Thomæ Grene, quondam canonici hujus monasterii quæ obiit ultimo"

On a black stone by the bishop's throne is this inscription, with his arms: — "William Bradshaw, D. D. Bishop of Bristol, and Dean of Christ Church in Oxford, died December the 16th, 1732, aged 62."

On the next is an old freestone with a black stone let into it, under which lies Bishop Thomas Howell, of this church, and on the black stone was engraven only this one word, "Expergiscar."

And the next is an old freestone, under which lies Bishop Gilbert Ironside, without any inscription.

South end of the chancel.

M. S.

Nathanielis Foster, S. T. P. nuperrimè hujus ecclesiæ preb. et paucis ab hinc annis C. C. C. Oxon Socii.

Dignus sane erat, qui multifariæ laudis exemplar debeat proponi; morum fideiq; integritate, quæ Christianum deceat, inculpatus; eruditione, quæ theologum ornet, instructissimus; optimarumq; artium cognitione accuratâ præcellens.

lens. Eximiam linguarum peritiam eo unice direxit, ut insitam cuilibet genti indolem penitus inspiceret, proprium scriptori cuiq. ingenium certiùs erueret puramq; ex ipso fonte derivaret sacri codicis simplicitatem: hinc naturâ sagax, doctrinâ solers humanæ mentis explorator, philosophorum veterum sectas, primariâ quâdam placitorum communicatione sibi invicem affines, et in diversa paulatim diductas, scholarum discrimina præ ceteris calluit notare, et distinguere. Hinc porro reconditos Platonis sui sensus non ut plerumq; fit, leviter tantum perstringit; sed quod a Platonis olim amico et familiari quodam expectandum fuisset, specioso verborum involucro exutos coram lectorem sistit, fidus interpret. Ne talem virum non satis ob oculos haberint posteri, hoc amoris luctusq; sui monumentum exstare voluit uxor superstes.

Ob. 20^{mo}. Octo. A. D. 1757. Ætat. 39^{no}.

Under the stained glass window the east end of the south aisle.

In cemiterio hujus ædis sepultus est Robertus Booth, S. T. P. Decanus Bristolæ, filius Georgii Baronis Delameri frater Henrici Comitis de Warrington. Horum uterque sicuti dubiis admodum temporibus singularem patriæ fidem ac virtutem præstitit, ita ipse ecclesiæ majorem, quam ab eo acceperat, dignitatem reddidit.

Verum inter plurimas ejus virtutes eminuit maxime profusa quædam in egenos liberalitas, quæ sacerdotem apprimè deceret, verè Christianum verèque nobilem. Nat. A. D. 1661, Ob. A. D. 1720, Dec. Bristol, A. D. 1708.

In the South aisle.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Samuel Love, A. M. Fellow of Baliol College, Oxford, and one of the minor canons of this cathedral, who died October 18th 1773, aged 29.

When worthless grandeur decks the embellish'd urn,

No poignant grief attends the fable bier,

But when distinguish'd excellence we mourn,

Deep is the sorrow, genuine the tear.

Stranger! shouldst thou approach this awful shrine

The merits of the honour'd dead to seek;

The Friend, the Son, the Christian, the Divine,

Let those who knew him, those who lov'd him, speak.

Oh! let them in some pause from anguish say,

What zeal inspir'd, what faith enlarg'd his breast,

How soon th' unfetter'd spirit wing'd its way,

From earth to heav'n, from blessing to be blest!

This monument is erected by some intimate friends of the deceased, as a testimony of his worth and their esteem. Against

Against the communion rails on the North side, in the wall is an arch wherein is an altar tomb, and thereon the effigies of an abbot lying in full proportion in pontificalia, carved in freestone, with a mitre on his head seemingly as old as the fabrick of the church. This was in memory of Abbot Edmund Knowles, who died Anno 1332, and built the present church (as it is said) leaving vacant arches in the walls to contain the effigies of his successors, and to hold other monuments in future for persons to be buried here. See p. 267.

Below and in the same wall over the bottom of the altar-steps is another arch, and therein the effigy of an abbot in full proportion in his habit, with a mitre on his head as the former, probably in memory of Abbot Walter Newbery, who died the 3d of September 1463. See p. 268.

Between the above Abbots, a little higher against the wall is fixed a small black marble compartment edged round with freestone, set in the wall in memory of Bishop of Rowland Searchfield, and Dean Chetwynd; the inscription is given in the account of that bishop.

At the upper end of the North aisle, between that and the choir, is a stone corps of Bishop Paul Bush, inclosed with wooden rails, lying on a low tomb raised from the floor about 18 inches, the tomb is composed of six pillars of the Ionick order, which support a flat canopy, the whole of freestone; between the pillars at bottom and round the verge at top is painted an inscription in black letters, to be given in the list of bishops.

In the South wall in the Choir, below the altar-steps, which are all laid with black and white marble, is under an arch the effigy of Abbot John Newland, with his mitre on his head, lying in full proportion as the other abbots; on a shield at his feet supported by two angels is his rebus, viz. an heart pierced through with three nails, alluding to his name, he being often times written Newland, alias Nailheart. For the further particulars I refer you to the list of abbots. p. 268.

A little lower in the place of the confessionary is a large handsome tomb with two men kneeling in armour, and a woman lying along before them, over them is a canopy supported by two black marble pillars, at bottom eight children kneeling with a desk between them, on a tablet above their heads this inscription:

Here lie the bodies of Sir John Young knight, and dame Joan his wife; she had issue by him Sir Robert, Jane, and Margaret. She was first married to Sir Giles Strangeways knight, by whom she had issue John, Edward, George, Nicholas,

Nicholas, Ann and Elizabeth; she was daughter of John Wadham, Esq; and she departed this mortal life the 14th of June 1603, aged 70 years.

In the South aisle under an arch of the thickness of the South wall, opening formerly into the vestry, is an altar-tomb covered with a broad stone at top, in memory of Maurice Berkeley, who died 1281, (being the second of this name,) his arms were formerly painted on the inside of the arch, also his arms with those of his two wives and that of King Edward the 1st. were carved in freestone on the inside next the vestry, now visible, but no effigies on his tomb now walled up.

On the other side of the vestry door lower down, in an arch in the South wall is the effigy of a man in armour lying on an altar-tomb, in memory of Maurice Berkeley the third Lord of that name, who died the 19th of Edward the 2d. 1326; his arms on his shield on his left arm.

At the lower end of the South aisle is an arch in the same wall with a like tomb, and the effigy of Thomas Lord Berkeley the first of that name in armour, cross legged, his arms are on his shield. He having offended King Henry the 3d. was obliged to enter himself a Knight Templar. He died in the 76th year of his age, and the 28th of King Henry the 3d. 1243.

In the South aisle Gilbert the 14th bishop of this church, for so he is called in the inscription, placed the following Latin epitaph to the memory of Alice Gliffon, who died the 24th of June 1662:

In piam memoriam lectissimæ fœminæ Aliciæ Gliffon, filiæ Gulielmi Gliffon de Marnhill in com. Dorset generosi in avito hoc tumulo sepultæ Anno Ætatis suæ 48 posuit mœstissimus conjux Gilbertus, hujus ecclesiæ episcopus decimus quartus, 24 die Junii A. D. 1662.

Samuel Crossman S. T. B.

Hujus ecclesiæ nuper Decanus Justorum resurrectionem hinc præstolatur: onus mortale deposuit 4 die Feb. A. D. MDCLXXXII. Militiæ vero suæ 59.

At the foot of the second pillar from the organ is, on an old freestone, "Elizabetha, filia Samuelis Crossman, hujus ecclesiæ prebendarii, et Gratia uxoris ejus; obiit Junii 21, 1668, Ætatis suæ 13. Spes et deliciae parentum: præivisti, sequemur."

A little above Bishop Paul Bush is a handsome freestone copartment neatly painted, containing the effigies of a man in armour and a woman kneeling, having books before them under a canopy, being supported; under them are eight sons and nine daughters, in a table below is the following Latin inscription:

Generoso

Generoso viro domino Roberto Codringtonio, a Codringtonia, in com. Gloucestr. armigero, atauorum imaginibus splendidissimo, fidei morumque candore spectatissimo Februar. 14 post incarnatum Deum 1618 Ætatis suæ 46 ex hoc vitæ ergastulo emancipato: charissima conjux domina Anna Codr. ex qua 8 filios, filiasque 9. genuit

Am } oris { ergo { Monu } Robertus Codrintoneus,
& } { Muni } Mentum { Mæstissima } Anagramma:
Hon } { } posuit: } ore & Corde justus Beor.

Plangite; disceffi; quin plaudite, vita beata

Est mihi namque solo, gratior inque polo.

Hic mens, hic soboles, volitatque per æthera vastum

Fama Codringtoni non moritura pii:

Os homini, domino patuit cor, conscia recti

Mens mihi, vel nullis contaminata malis;

Ore fui Justus; merces durabilis annis;

Corde fui Justus, præmia magna, BEOR.

At the top of all, this under the shield of his arms:

Fides } Dei { verbum } respicit.
Spes } { præmium }
Charitas } { servum }

Codrington, of Codrington in the county of Gloucester. This family was of good note in this county in the time of Henry the 4th. (vide Sir Robert Atkins's State of Gloucestershire, p. 391.) John Codrington Esq; being standard-bearer to King Henry the 5th. in his wars in France; and as it appears by the heralds books, was then armed in a coat with lions in the service of the said King in battle to watch and ward under his banner, and for the good services that the said John Codrington had done, or should do, and to the worship of knighthood, as it is there expressed, a farther addition was made to his arms in the 23d of King Henry the 6th. 1445.

Colonel John Codrington Esq; who married Elizabeth daughter of Samuel Gorges of Wraxal in the county of Somerset, is of this old family, whose only daughter married Sir Richard Warwick Bamfield of Poltimore in the county of Devon, Bart. Member of Parliament for the city of Exeter, and in the Parliament 1747 for the county of Devon, and his son Sir Charles Bamfield is Member for the city of Exeter 1788, and resides at Wraxal.—The said John Codrington Esq; was three times chosen Member of Parliament for the city of Bath, 1721, 1727, 1734. The great grandfather of the late Sir William Codrington of Dodington in the county of Gloucester, Bart. was a younger

younger son of this family, he was Member of Parliament for Minehead in Somersetshire at the time of his death, which happened December the 17th 1738 at Dodington, and was succeeded by his eldest son Sir William Codrington the present Baronet, whose father Sir William was created Baronet April the 21st 1721, in the 8th year of the reign of George the 1st.

Anne the fourth daughter of Richard Samwell of Upton in Northamptonshire, Esq; by his wife Frances, eldest daughter and coheir of Thomas Viscount Wenman of Tuam in Ireland, married to Robert Codrington of Codrington in Gloucestershire, Esq; as may be seen by the arms and inscription on the monument: arms; argent, two squirrels sejant, addorsed, gules, by the name of Samwell. Crest, on a ducal coronet, or. a squirrel sejant, cracking a nut, proper.

Without the choir under the dean and prebendaries seat is an ancient large grave stone that had on it brasses.—*N. B.* This seems to be the only grave stone that had any figure cut on a brass plate in the whole church, it lay originally at the choir entrance between the abbot's and prior's stall, and was in memory of Robert Fitzharding Lord of Berkeley the founder, and his Lady, before it was removed hither.

In the great cross aisle and nave without the choir are many grave stones; one close under the pulpit in memory of Robert Perry master of the Bluecoat-hospital founded by Queen Elizabeth &c. which bears this inscription, Hic jacet Robertus Perry, orphanotrophii magister vigilantissimus qui mortem obiit Aprilis 29, 1652.

And this other on a black marble lying near the steps leading to the bishop's consistory, which is kept in a room above stairs:

Here lyeth the body of Geo. Smyth, late of North Nibley, in the county of Gloucester, Esq; who departed this life the 29th day of February 1712-13, aged 48. (with his coat of arms.)

There are also many buried in the nave or body of the church with the name and date cut in a white marble stone of a lozenge shape, fixed in the paving.

In a chapel at the lower end of the South aisle, extending itself equal with the great cross aisle, is against the East wall an ancient tomb of grey marble, it contained the effigies of two persons kneeling, and an inscription in brass underneath them, and their arms behind their heads, but it has been entirely taken away in the civil wars and there's no memorial to whom it belonged; however from William of Worcester it appears it was in memory of Sir Richard Newton Cradock, who died December the 13th 1444, being one of the justices

justices of the common pleas. This with the founder's grave stone is the only monument in the whole church that had in brass inscriptions or figures belonging to them.

This monument with two others that are in the same chapel were in the year 1748 repaired and beautified at the expence of Mrs. Archer of London.

The place where the brasses were fixed when taken away left impressions against the tomb, which when repaired was filled up smooth and thereon is now put the following inscription :

In memory of Sir Richard Newton Cradock of Barrs Court in the county of Gloucester, one of his Majesties Justices of the Common Pleas, who died December the 13th 1444, and with his Lady lies interr'd beneath this monument, which was defaced by the civil wars and repaired by Mrs. Archer sister to the late Sir Michael Newton of Barrs Court 1748.

His arms are argent, on A chevron azure, 3 garbes or.

Against the South wall in the said chapel are two handsome tombs, the first is composed of alabaster and freestone, and has at top three shields of arms; on one belonging to a man is 24 coats, and on another belonging to a woman 12 coats, and on a middle shield only two coats, viz. of the man and woman impaled.

Underneath lie the effigies of a man in armour and a woman in full proportion, and under them two sons and four daughters, above them is a tablet with this inscription :—" Here lies Sir Henry Newton of Barr's-Court in the county of Gloucester Kt. who married Katherine the daughter of Sir Thomas Paston, of Norfolk, Kt. by whom he had 2 sons & 4 daughters; & when he had lived full 70 years religiously towards God, loyally towards his Prince, & virtuously towards men; ended his life in the year of grace 1599,

In assured hope of a glorious resurrection.

Gourney, Hampton, Cradock, Newton last,

Held on the measure of that ancient line

Of Barons blood; full 70 years he past,

And did in peace his sacred soul resign :

His church he loved; he lov'd to feed the poor;

Such love assures a life, that dies no more.

The other tomb below his is of freestone, in memory of Sir John Newton Bart. son of Theodore Newton and his Lady, Grace daughter of **** Stone Esq; who died without issue 1661. It is supported by two twisted pillars, having the effigy of the defunct lying in full proportion in armour with a truncheon in his right hand, over him is on two tablets painted against the wall the following inscription :

1st Tablet.

1st Tablet.

Here lyeth the body of Sir John
Newton, Bart. son of Sir Theodore
Newton, Kt. and his Lady Grace,
daughter of Stone Esq; who
dy'd without issue 1661.

2d Tablet.

He was a man of great courage, &
the greatest loyalty to his Prince, an
honour to his country, a credit &
noble ornament to his name and
family.

At top is on a shield these arms, argent, on a cheveron azure, three garbes,
or. by the name of Cradock, impaled with the arms of Stone, viz. Parte per
pale, or. & gules, an eagle displayed with two heads azure.

There is a shield here with 24 quarterings belonging to this family of
Newton of Barr's-Court.

At the lower end of the South aile, extending itself equal with the great
cross aile, is against the South pillar before the said chapel, fixed in the same,
a handsome compartment of black and white marble in memory of Jacob Elton
Esq; Captain of the Anglesea man of war of 40 guns, who was killed in an
engagement on the high seas, his body was thrown overboard and the ship taken
by the French the 29th of March 1745, the inscription is,

Jacob Elton

Filius natu secundus Abrahami Elton Barti.

Rebus nauticis

A tenerâ ætate affuetus,

Et in classe Britannicâ, etiamnum Adolefcens

Navarcha ;

Anno tricesimo secundo nondum peracto,

Dum contra Gallos

Prælio navali dimicasset,

Properatâ quidem,

Sed pulcherrimâ morte

Occubvit,

Die Martii 29^{no}. A: D: 1745.

Qualis erat morum suavitas, Amici,

Quæ Humanitas et Benevolentia, nautæ,

Quam intrepidè et fortiter se gessit,

Ille Dies

Satis superque testatur.

Leve hoc Amoris suæ et Desiderii Monumentum

Vidua mæstissima

Carolina Filia et cohæres Caroli Yate

De Coulthroe in agro Glocestriæ

Poni curavit.

These are the principal monuments and memorials of the dead whose remains lie deposited in these sacred mansions. Our ancestors were very earnest in paying all due honours to good men departed, by erecting monuments and tombs over their bodies, and transmitting to latest posterity for our imitation the characters of the deceased, their piety towards God and charity towards their fellow-creatures by inscriptions to their memories, many of which as they are very learned, most of them instructive, and all convey some good lessons of piety, charity, religious devotion, &c. have their use in improving the minds of the living: though there may possibly be a mixture of flattery and human foible in some of those compositions.—As monuments express our belief of an immortality by shewing a regard for our departed friends, they should not be accused of vanity and ambition who pay that grateful regard to those whom they wish to meet again in another and better world: though this seems to be one reason why many worthy men and good families lie now a-days almost unnoticed in the repositories of the dead; a tacit confession also of the slight impression death and immortality make now on the minds of their successors.

Having thus finished the description of this cathedral church and all its parts, I shall proceed to give an account of its endowment by Henry the 8th. dated the 18th of November the 34th of Henry the 8th. A. D. 1542, out of the ruins of nine monasteries.

Value of the Rents.

General	-	-	£ 739	4	11
Reprisal	-	-	60	1	0
Clear	-	-	679	3	11

The following sums arise thereout (as appears by the rental) in this manner, viz.

Out of the Monastery of

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1. St. Augustin, Bristol, the Abbot	323	18	0½	22	8	3	301	9	9½
2. Michelney, Somerset, the Abbot and comit. Hertf.	-	-	122 8 9	13	16	3	108	12	6
3. Bruton, Somerset, the Abbot	88	11	4	-	-	-	88	11	4
4. Shafton, Dorset, the Abbot	77	13	1½	0	16	8	76	16	5½
5. Bath, Somerset, Priory	-	-	43 16 0	-	-	-	43	16	0
6. St. Oswald nigh Glocr. Priory Abbot	42	17	8	14	10	8	28	7	0
7. Taunton, Somerset, Priory	-	14	0 0	-	-	-	14	0	0
8. Frithelstoke, Devonshire, Prior	18	0	0	8	9	1	9	10	11
9. Bradenstock Com. Wilts, Prior	8	0	0	-	-	-	8	0	0
Total	-	739	4 11	60	0	11	679	4	0

The

The particulars of each of these, viz. where they lie, and from whence the rents issue, may be seen in the following order:

No. I. The Rents of the Monastery of St. Augustin in six counties.

1. Bristol.

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Rents in and about the town	101	6	0	13	7	4	87	18	8
Pensions out of rectories	6	8	8				6	8	8

2. Gloucester.

1. Southerney manor	9	1	0	0	6	8	8	14	4
2. Blacksworth manor	7	0	9	0	10	0	6	10	9
3. Codrington manor	-	6	13	4					
4. Rectory of Wapley	-	-	4	13	4				
5. Erlingham manor	5	17	4						
6. Henton de Everingham	-	0	2	0					
7. Bradley tene. Witton	-	3	6	8	-	20	12	8	3
8. Berkeley-Hernis rectory	65	6	8				65	6	8
9. Clifton tenement*	-	1	0	8			1	0	8

3. Somerset.

1. Wear rectory in pension and composition	-	9	6	8			9	6	8
2. Tenement in Stanton Drew	0	12	0				0	12	0
3. Three shops in Bath, rent	0	5	0				0	5	0

4. Devon.

1. Halberton manor	-	15	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	6	8	14	9	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. The rectory there	-	33	0	0				33	0	0

5. Glamorgan.

1. Penarth manor, with the great tithes	-	-	19	9	11	0	10	0	18	19	11
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6. Wentlock, Monmouth.

1. Peterston manor, with the rectory of Kemney with its appurtenances, also St. Melo	34	12	4	3	0	11	31	11	5	31	11	5
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Total sum 323 18 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 22 8 3 301 9 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ No.

* Clifton one acre of pasture worth 11. 10s. per annum, encompassed with several lands of the widow Jane Wilson, and now in the occupation of Mr. William Hodges. See the survey in 1649, fol. 30.—Three acres and a half in Clifton were granted by Abbot Burton, see chapter book, lib. 1. fol. Penultima.

No. II. Out of the monastery of Mochelney the rents are in two counties.

1. Buckingham.

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1. Seymour Court messuage in Marlo - -	7	2	5				7	2	5

2. Somerset.

1. Abbot's Isle rectory with Stewnly - -	6	0	0	0	9	11½	5	10	0½
2. Meriot rectory -	12	1	0				12	1	0
3. Ilmister rectory, 20l. cum Horton, 1l. 5s. Ilcombe 2l. os. - -	23	5	0				23	5	0
4. Somerton rectory -	44	13	4	6	16	4	37	17	0
5. Fifehead rectory -	4	0	0	0	9	11½	3	10	0½
6. Drayton with the tythes of the lands 12 2 0 Of the de- mean lands of Westover 2 13 4									
7. Mortontythes 1 5 0—	22	0	4	6	0	0	16	0	4
8. Mildney in the parish of Drayton -	3	6	8				3	6	8
Total Sum	122	8	9	13	16	3	108	12	6

No. III. The rents out of the monastery of Brewton are in the county of Somerset.

1. Rectory of Banwell with Puxton, Churchill	38	3	4				38	3	4
2. South Petherton rectory with four chapels annexed and Swell rectory	50	8	0				50	8	0
Total Sum	88	11	4				88	11	4

No. IV. The rents out of the monastery of Shafton in the county of Wilts.

	General Value.			Reprisal.			Clear Value.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. Tisbury rec- tory tythes	16	16	8						
The glebe or manor of the same rectory	3	9	10—20	6	6				
2. Bradford rectory, with the manor and four tenements	-	-	57 6 7½	0	16	8	76	16	5½
								76	16 5½
Total Sum	77	13	1½	0	16	8	76	16	5½

No. V. The rents out of the monastery of Bath are in two counties.

	1. Gloucester.				
1. Olveston rectory	-	17	16 0	17	16 0—17 16 0
	2. Somerset.				
1. Bath-Hampton rectory	10	0	0	10	0 0
2. Bath-Ford rectory	8	6	8	8	6 8
3. Bath-Wick prebendary pension	-	0	6 8	0	6 8
4. The vicar of Chew pension	-	7	0 0	7	0 0
5. Of Newton St. Loe, pension	-	0	6 8	0	6 8
					26 0 0
Total Sum	43	16	0	43	16 0

No. VI. The rents out of the monastery of St. Oswald near Gloucester
are in the county of Gloucester.

1. Compton Abdale rectory	9	0	0	6	1	0	2	19	0
2. Norton rectory	-	13	6 8	6	14	4	6	12	4
3. Churchdean rectory with Hocalcot	-	11	1 0	0	14	4	10	6	8
4. St. Oswald's in four proportions, or St. Ka- therine's rectory	-	7	5 4	1	1	0	6	4	4

	General Value.	Reprisal.	Clear Value.	
	l. s. d.	l. s. d.	l. s. d.	l. s. d.
5. A pension out of the rectory of Widcombe	0 13 4		0 13 4	
6. A pension out of the rectory of Laffenden	0 8 0		0 8 0	
7. For tythes out of lands of Northcerney -	1 3 4		1 3 4	
				28 7 0
Total Sum	42 17 8	14 10 8	28 7 0	

No. VII. Out of the monastery of Taunton in the county of Somerset.

1. Kingston rectory	14 0 0	14 0 0
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No. VIII. Out of the monastery of Frethil Stoke in the county of Devon.

1. Brodwoodwiger with Week -	18 0 0	8 9 1	9 10 11
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No. IX. Out of the monastery of Braden Stoke in the county of Wilts.

1. Marden rectory -	8 0 0	8 0 0
General Total Sum	£ 739 4 11	60 1 0 679 3 11

From these clearly appear the rents granted by King Henry to this church from the said nine monasteries, all lying within eight counties, (reckoning the county of Gloucester and the city as one) and in these eight only the rents arise.

1. In the county of Buckingham.	l. s. d.
From the monastery of Mechelney -	7 2 5
2. Glamorgan.	
From the monastery of St. Augustin -	18 19 11
3. Wentlock als. Monmouth.	
From the monastery of St. Augustin -	31 11 5
4. Devon, from the monastery of	
1. St. Augustin -	47 9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Frithelstoke -	9 10 11 — 56 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
5. Wilts, from the monastery of	
1. Shafton -	76 16 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Bradenstock -	8 0 0 — 84 16 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Gloucester.	

6. Gloucester, from the monastery of

		l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1. St. Augustin	-	-	-	98	18	5				
2. St. Oswald	-	-	-	28	7	0				
3. Bath	-	-	-	17	16	0	145	1	5	

7. Somerset, from the monastery of

1. Mochelney	-	-	-	101	10	1				
2. Bruton	-	-	-	88	11	4				
3. Bath	-	-	-	26	0	0				
4. Taunton	-	-	-	14	0	0				
5. St. Augustin	-	-	-	10	3	8	240	5	1	

8. Bristol, from the monastery of

1. St. Augustin there	-	-	-	94	7	4				
							679	4	0	

And lastly, in this order through every one of these counties enquiry may be made into each of the said rents, to wit, which of them in process of time is lost or diminished and which encreased and enlarged, so that by this means the true value and state of the whole may be known, according to which method and distinction by counties (in the order in which they are above placed) the treasurer's accounts of the yearly rents (hitherto kept in a most confused or rather no order) may for the future be made up with great ease and clearness.

Besides these rents so recovered by the royal letters patent to the dean and chapter of this church (or rather intrusted to their fidelity) the advowsons, donations, and rights of patronage of many churches are granted, of which

Some specially and namely, viz. from the monastery of

1. St. Augustin, Berkeley, Wapley, Halberton, Peterstone alias Kempney.
2. St. Oswald, Churchden, with Hocalcot, Compton Abdale, Norton, with St. Oswald.
3. Bath, Olveston, Hampton, Ford.
4. Bruton, South Petherton with Banwell.
5. Mochelney, Ile Abbots, Ilminster, Ilcombe, Horton, Somerton, Meriott, Fifehead, Mildney, and Drayton.
6. Shafton, Bradford, Tisbury.
7. Taunton, Kingston.
8. Bradenstock, Marden.
9. Frithelstoke, Brodwoodwigor.

In general of all the vicarages and other churches whose rectories are above granted to the same, but amongst those churches intrusted to them some have perpetual vicars, curates, and stipendaries.

Some churches or chapels are annexed and adjoin to another parochial church, (as to the mother) the care of providing ministers of which belongs to the vicar thereof.

Others are not thus annexed or only providing ministers for them more properly belongs to them and their farmers.

But they are all situated in the following six dioceses :

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. Llandaff. | 4. Gloucester. |
| 2. Salisbury. | 5. Bath and Wells. |
| 3. Exeter. | 6. Bristol. |

When the King erected the bishopric of Bristol, he grants to Paul Bush, Bishop of Bristol, all those messuages called the abbots' lodgings within the monastery of Bristol, to him and his successors.

And grants him the manors of Leigh and Rowborrow, in the county of Somerset, the rectories of Portbury, Clevedon, and Ticknam, and advowsons of the vicarages :

The manors of Ashleworth, Cromhall, and Horfield, in the county of Gloucester : lands in Slimbridge and Ailberton :

The rectories and advowsons of Ashleworth, Almondsbury, Ailberton, Horfield, Felton, and Kingsweston, late parcel of the possessions of Bristol monastery :

The rectories and advowsons of St. Hurst and Minsterworth, late parcel of St. Oswald's monastery in Gloucester :

Rectory of Tockington, and tythes of Over Compton :

Rectory and advowson of New Church in the Isle of Wight, parcel of Battle abbey :

Rectory and advowson of Limington, in the county of Southampton, parcel of Christ Church priory :

Rectory and advowson of Buckland, parcel of Hedington monastery, in the county of Wilts :

Manors and advowsons of Fifhead cum Crockesworth, in the county of Dorset, parcel of Bristol monastery, habend. to the bishop and his successors for ever in puram et perpetuam elemosinam. Test, June 10th.

The value of those lands, in a survey taken about that time, I find to be thus rated :

Ashleworth

	l.	s.	d.
Ashleworth manor, county of Gloucester	59	6	10
Cromhal manor, county of Gloucester	17	3	1
Horfield manor and rectory, county of Gloucester, cum Felton and Kingsweston, in the said county	49	13	10
Alberton rectory, county of Gloucester	6	0	0
Almondsbury rectory, county of Gloucester	18	15	0
St. Hurst rectory, county of Gloucester	10	19	0
Minsterworth rectory, county of Gloucester	8	6	8
Leigh manor cum Membris, county of Somerset	56	3	1
Rowborrow manor, county of Somerset	20	3	5
Portbury rectory, county of Somerset, cum Tickenham and Clevedon	28	16	6
Fifhead and Crockeford manors, county of Dorset	39	3	0
New Church in Insula Vectæ (in English) Isle of Wight, in the county of Southampton	34	17	6
Limington rectory, county of Southampton	8	0	0
Buckland manor, county of Berks	23	4	11
	£ 380	12	10

The whole of the endowment, according to the first valuation,
amounted to £ 383 8 4

The lands and bishop's demesne at Bristol not given in, in this particular
making up, no doubt, the other 3l. odd shillings.

This was the first demand and settlement for first fruits and tenths, which
are now reduced 327l. 5s. 7d. by the following alienations from Bristol
bishoprick:

Paul Bush, the first bishop, anno 4th of Edward the 6th. granted to that
King the manor of Leigh cum Membris, by deed made May the 25th, 1559.
In which the dean and chapter joined Sept. 21 following; and two days
after, viz. Sept. 23, the King granted the reversion of it, after the death of
Paul Bush, to Sir George Norton and his heirs for ever. From Norton's
family it came to the Trenchards, ——. I find no other alienations in
the patents, though the rents and fines may have been ascertained, and so
sunk the bishoprick; in which respect Bishop Fletcher is very much com-
plained of tempore Eliz. This manor of Leigh, rated at 56l. 3s. 1d.
reduced the value of the first fruits as above-mentioned, from 383l. to 327l.
which are now paid.

Sale of the lands of the bishoprick in the Rebellion, anno 1641.

Horfield parcel of the manor, sold March 1, 1647, to Giles Calvert and Adam Haughton, for	l.	s.	d.
	410	15	10
Bristol palace and park, sold June 22, 1648, to Thomas and John Clark, for	240	0	0
Misnore, Preston, Longford, and Ashleworth manors, parcel of the possession of Gloucester and Bristol fees, sold Sept. 28, 1648, to Alderman Towke, for	3819	1	0 ¹ / ₃
N. B. The three first belong to Gloucester, and only Ashleworth to Bristol.			
Fifhead Magdalen, county of Dorset, sold June 1, 1649, to John Aclyft, for	1333	12	4
Cromhall Abbats manor, county of Gloucester, sold Sept. 28, 1649, to Richard Kirrington and Roger Cook, for	568	0	2
Horfield and Filton manors, sold Jan. 30, 1649, to Thomas Andrews, for	1256	14	0
The Gate-house in Bristol, sold March 6, 1649, to John Birch, for	18	13	4
Parcel of Ground near Bristol, sold August 9, 1650, to John Lock, for	21	10	0
Rowborow manor, county of Somerset, and lands in Marton, in the county of York, parcel of Bristol and York bishoprics, sold March 21, 1650, to Philip Nye and Theophilus Archer, for	722	1	1

Total £ 8390 7 9¹/₃

The bishoprick, notwithstanding some late improvements of the revenue by leasing out the park for building, which now brings in a ground rent of 70l. per annum, is not valued at more than about 500l. per annum; the Bishop of Bristol is therefore allowed to hold something in commendam with it, as the deanry of Christ Church, a prebend in St. Paul's church, London, or some valuable benefice.

The Bishop of Bristol collates to Dorset archdeaconry and Fifhead vicarage, county of Dorset, Almondsbury, &c, in all 14 benefices, which will appear more clearly with their valuation in the King's books, yearly tenths, fite, dedications, and antient patrons, by the following table.

Diocese

Diocese of Bristol, Gloucestershire.

The following livings are in the gift of the Lord Bishop of Bristol.

The Bishoprick of Bristol * was taken out of the diocese of Salisbury, except Bristol Deanry, which was taken out of Worcester.

First Fruits. *Yearly Tenths.*

l. s. d. l. s. d.

294 11 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ The cathedral church, (Holy Trinity, olim St. Augustin.) 27 14 4 $\frac{3}{4}$

The deanry of this church is in the gift of the King, and not charged with the payment of first fruits or tenths, (charter of erection June the 14th 1542.)

Deanry of Bristol.†

Livings discharged.

Clear yearly Value. Rectories &c. with the patron and proprietor.

40 13 10 Aldmondsbury vic. (St. Mary) penf. abb. Sti. Augustini 10s. Bishop of Bristol patron and impropiator, abb. Sti. Augustini Bristol, olim impr. - - 2 0 0

Chapels, donations, and curacies.

No. 2. Horfield cur. (Holy Trinity) 3l. certified value, abb. Sti. Augustini, olim prop. Bishop of Bristol, now impr. and patr.

46 0 8 Elberton, alias Aylbarton vic. or chap. in the county of Gloucester, Bishop of Bristol propr. and patr. 0 13 3

Diocese of Bristol.

Deanry of Shafton, Shatesbury.

King's Books.

Livings in charge.

7 0 0 Fishfield, alias Fifehead Magdalen vic. (St. Mary Magdalen) penf. abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, 60s. fynods and proxies 3s. 4d. ecclef. Sarum 20d.

Mon. fti. Aug. Bristol, propr. Mr. Newman 1677, Sir Richard Newman patr. 1725, Sir Robert Smyth Bart. presented 1726, the Bishop of Bristol impr.

In

* Bishoprick of Bristol.—The tenths were altered by judgment of the Court of Exchequer, Hilary Term the 8th of Elizabeth, to the sum of 27l. 14s. 4d. as above. The patent of erection of this Bishoprick, dated June 4, 1542, 34th of Henry the 8th. may be seen in Rymer's Fœdera, vol. 14. p. 748.

† Deanry of Bristol.—This Deanry and two churches in the city of Bristol are still subject to the Archdeacon of Gloucester.

In the Diocese of Gloucester.

Clear yearly Value.			Dean Forest.	Yearly Tenths.		
l.	s.	d.	Living discharged.	l.	s.	d.
18	0	0	Minsterworth vic. * (St. George)	1	1	0
No. 5.	Pri. Sti. Oswaldi, Gloucester impr. the Bishop of Bristol impr. and patr. but let by lease to Mr. Pool, and is only a curacy.					

Deanry of Gloucester.

Living discharged.

37	0	0	Ashelworth vic. (St. Andrew)	1	2	11
No. 6.	Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, olim impr. Bishop of Bristol impr. and patron.					
24	0	0	Santhurst vic. (St. Laurence)	0	0	0
No. 7.	Mon. Sti. Oswaldi, Gloucester, olim impr. Bishop of Bristol.					

Diocese of Salisbury, county of Berks.

Deanry of Abingdon.

In the Arch-deaconry of Berks.

Living discharged.

35	0	0	Buckland vic. (St. Mary)	1	16	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
No. 8.	Episc. Bristol, modernus proprietor. pri. Edington in Wilts, olim propr. Mrs. Mary Millington 1720, by lease from the Bishop of Bristol.					

Diocese of Winchester.

Deanry of the Isle of Wight.

Living discharged.

50	0	0	New-Church vic. (All-Saints) reprif. 21s. 4d.	1	4	8
No. 9.	Mon. de Bello loco impr. Bishop of Bristol.					

Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Deanry of Redclift and Bedminster, in the Archdeaconry of Bath, Somerset.

Living discharged.

12	6	11	Tickenham vic. (St. Quiricus and Julietta) prox. 5d.	0	17	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
No. 10.	Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.					

The King by lapse 1753.

23	18	7	Clevedon vic. (St. Andrew)	1	11	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
No. 11.	Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.					

Clear

* Minsterworth vic.—Sir Robert Atkyns says, "this is a vicarage turned into a curacy," p. 557.

Clear yearly Value.

Yearly Tenths.

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
27	15	8	Portbury vic. (St. Mary) prox. 6d.	-	-	-
			No. 12. Abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, propr. Bishop of Bristol.			

Deanry of Axbridge.

In the Archdeaconry of Wells.

Living discharged.

19	17	9	Rowborrow rec. (St. Michael) synods 2s. prox. 4d.	0	15	0
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No. 13. Bishop of Bristol.

Diocese of Gloucester.

Deanry of Campden.

Living discharged.

Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

29	4	6	Eburton vic. * (St. Edburgh) synods 2s.	-	0	18	11	$\frac{3}{4}$
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No. 14. The King by lapse 1714. Bishop of Bristol 1622,
1638. Abb. Bittlefden in Bucks, olim propr.

Endowments of the Chapter of Bristol, Anno 1542.

The King grants to the Dean and Chapter of Bristol and their successors, all the site and circuit of the late monastery of Bristol, except what was before granted to the Bishop:

The manors of Codrington, South Cerney and Blackfworth † cum pertinentiis, parcel of Bristol abby.

A tenement and two closes in Westborne, lands in Clifton, and messuages in Bradley; lands in Henton in the county of Somerset, with other hereditaments in Erlingham, Wapley, Bradley, Goodrington, and Hinton, parcels of said abby.

The rectories of Berkeley, Hinton, and Wapley, and advowson of the vicarages, parcel of Bristol abby.

The rectories of St. Oswald, Gloucester, Churchdown, Hoculcot, Compton-Abdale, and Norton, parcel of St. Oswald's in Gloucester monastery.

Tythes of hay in Wike, Stone, Bovington, Bradston, Cadbury, Oldminster, Hamand Hill in Berkeley parish, late belonging to Bristol abby.

Tythes of Twigworth and North Cerney, rectories of Widcomb and Laffinden, and two houses called the Almories in Bristol.

A distil-house

* Eburton, alias Ebrington vic.—Sir Wm. Kite has given 10l. yearly to the vicar. Atkyns's Gloucestershire.

† The manor of Blackfworth with other things, was sold the 21st of March 1649 by commissioners appointed for abolishing deans and chapters &c. to the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, for the sum of 3838l. 1s. 2d. paid to Thomas Noel and William Hobson, two of the treasurers appointed to receive the same.

A distil-house and three mills in Redclift Juxta Bristol, and a messuage called the Boar's-Head in Bristol.

Three shops in Walcot-street in Bath, the rectories of Hampton, Olveston, and Ford, late belonging to Bath monastery, and patronage of the vicarages.

The rectory and advowson of Kingston, parcel of Taunton monastery.

The rectories of South Petherton, Lopington, Barrington, Chellington, Upton, Sevington, and Banwell in the county of Somerset.

The rectories of Abbat's Isle, Ilminster, Horton, Merriot, Ilcomb, Somerton, Fifehead, Mochelney, Drayton, and Moreton; advowsons of the vicarages, late possessions of Mochelney abbey.

Pensions payable out of the churches of St. Nicholas 4l. 6s. 8d. St. Augustine's 2s. All-Saints 2l. St. Leonard's 10s. and St. Michael's in Bristol 2s.

Pensions of Bathwick prebend, rectories of Chew and Newton St. Loo, parcel of Bath monastery.

The manor and chapel of Peterston in Wentlog, parcel of Bristol abbey.

Advowsons of Kempney and Peterston in the county of Monmouth, the rectories of Tisbury, Bradford, Winsly, Holt, Atworth, Wraxal, Comberwell, in the county of Wilts, parcel of Shaftesbury abbey.

The rectory of Marden in the county of Wilts, parcel of Bradenstock abbey.

Advowsons of Tisbury and Bradford manor, rectory and advowsons of Halberton in the county of Devon, parcel of Bristol abbey.

Rectory and advowson of Brodwoodwiger in the county of Devon, parcel of Frithelstock priory, with all their rights, privileges, &c. which belonged to the late monasteries, &c. and were parcels of the said manors, rectories, &c. here given tenend. to the dean and chapter and their successors for ever. Teste. Nov. 18th A. D. 1542, and the 34th of King Henry the 8th.

St. Nicholas 4l. 6s. 8. All-Saints 2l. St. Augustine's 2s. St. Michael 2s. these pensions are paid by the minister of each parish, St. Leonard 10s. per ann. is paid as a quit-rent by the churchwarden of the parish for the time being for a house in Fisher-lane.

The whole ground rents of the dean and chapter estates amount to 845l. per ann. which do not pay the expences of the church, fees of office, stipends to the several officers, canons, singing-men, organist, sub-sacrist, &c. amounting to about 1111l. per ann. besides the repairs of the church, &c. But the renewals upon so many estates upon an average bring in so much as renders the deanry worth above 300l. per ann. and each prebend above 150l. per ann. though it has sometimes amounted to 400l. per ann. to the dean, and 200l. per ann. to each prebendary, but the sums must vary. Lord Paulet for the

the tythes of Hinton and South Petherton, and for the manor of Halberton in Devon, offered 4000l. to put in two lives in 1776, which was under the value; he died 1788, by which those estates fell in to the dean and chapter.

Besides the following churches and chapels, they also formerly presented to Ilminster and Somerton vicarages in the county of Somerset, and to St. Melon's, but by not looking after their right have lost them.

The statutes of the foundation about the chapter, residence of the dean and prebendaries, and other officers, are the same with those of Gloucester collegiate church, printed in Sir Robert Atkyns's ancient and present state of that county in a large folio volume.

The following table gives a particular account of the livings in the gift and patronage of the dean and chapter of Bristol, their value in the King's books, dedication, tenths, &c.

Diocese of Bristol, in Gloucester county.

Deanry of Bristol.

<i>King's Books.</i>		<i>Livings remaining in charge.</i>		<i>Yearly Tenths.</i>
<i>l. s. d.</i>				<i>l. s. d.</i>

24	0	0	No. 1.	Olveston vic. St. Mary, cum cap. Alveston, St. Helen, pri. Bath, olim impr. dean and chapter of Bristol,	-	-	2	8	0
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There was formerly in this parish the free chapel of Tockington, St. John the Baptist, which did belong to the abby of St. Augustin in Bristol, and after the dissolution was given to the bishoprick of Bristol.

Diocese of Gloucester.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>		<i>Livings discharged in the Deanry of Dursley.</i>
<i>l. s. d.</i>		

32	0	0	Hill a donative (St. Michael) abb. Sti. Augustini in Bristol, olim impr. dean and chapter of Bristol, now impro. Sir Edward Fust Bart.
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City of Bristol.

Livings discharged.

Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.

21	11	8	No. 2.	All-Saints vic. dean and chapter of Bristol					
				propr. and patr.	-	-	-	0	8 4
5	10	0	No. 3.	St. Augustin's vic. dean and chapter of Bristol					
				propr. and patr.	-	-	-	0	12 0

R R

Clear

Clear yearly Value.				Yearly Tenths.		
l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
4	1	5	No. 4. St. Leonard's vic. dean and chapter of Bristol propr. and patr. - - -	1	4	0
7	16	6	No. 5. St. Nicholas vic. dean and chapter of Bristol Diocese of Salisbury.	2	12	1½
Deanry of Pottern, in the Archdeaconry of Sarum. Livings discharged.						
40	0	0	No. 6. Marden vic. (All-Saints) archdiac. 4s. dean and chapter of Bristol impr. and patr. - - -	0	17	9
Diocese of Gloucester. Deanry of Cirencester not charged.						
No. 7. Compton Abdale cur. (St. Oswald) 7l. certified value pri. Sti. Oswaldi Gloucester, olim propr. church of Bristol patr. Deanry of Gloucester, not in charge.						
No. 8. Churchdown cur. (St. Bartholomew) 20l. cer- tified value, pri. Sti. Oswaldi olim propr. dean and chapter of Bristol patr.						
No. 9. Norton cur. (St. Mary) 20l. certified value, pri. Sti. Oswaldi, propr. dean and chapter of Bristol patrons. St. Catherine, alias St. Oswald's vic. demo- lished, dean and chapter of Bristol patr. Diocese of Salisbury. Deanry of Pottern, in the Archdeaconry of Sarum. Livings discharged.						
42	0	0	No. 10. Bradford vic. (Holy Trinity) with fix chapels,* Archdiac. 7s. 6d. pri. Shaftesbury, olim propr. (vide Leland's Itin. vol. 7. p. 81.) dean and chapter of Bristol propr. and patr. - - -	1	0	1½
Diocese of Bath and Wells, Somerset. Deanry of Axbridge, in the Archdeaconry of Wells. Livings remaining in charge.						
<i>King's Books.</i> Rectories &c. with their patrons and proprietors.						
26	6	0½	No. 11. Banwell vic. (St. Andrew) with Puxton chapel (St. Saviour) abb. Brewton 20s. - - -	2	12	7¼
Abb. Brewton propr. dean and chapter of Bristol. <i>King's</i>						
* Bradford vic. hath fix chapels, viz. Westwood, Stoke (St. Edith), Winsly (St. Mary), Wraaxal (St. James), Aldworth, and Holt (St. Catherine).						

King's Books.

Yearly Tenths.

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
12	1	5½	No. 12. Were vic. (St. George) fynods 10s. 8d. ob. proxies 2s. abb. Sti. Augustini, Bristol, 9l. 6s. 8d. dean and chapter of Bristol, abb. St. Austin, Bristol, propr. - - -	1	4	1¾
			Chapels, donatives, and curacies. Churchill (St. John Baptist) chap. to Banwell 16l. Puxton (St. Saviour) chapel to Banwell 16l. Deanry of Bath, in the Archdeaconry of Bath. Livings discharged.			
13	17	5½	No. 13. Bathampton vic. (St. Nicholas) fynods 2s. 6d. pri. Bath, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol.	0	15	8½
25	3	0	No. 14. Ford, alias Bathford vic. (St. Swithin) proxies 10d. pri. Bath, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - -	0	17	9¾
			Deanry of Crewkerne, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton. Livings remaining in charge.			
24	0	0	No 15. South Petherton vic. (St. Peter and St. Paul) fynods 2s. 3d. proxies 18d. ob. - Abb. of Brewton, impr. dean and chapter of Bristol.	2	8	0
			<i>Clear yearly Value.</i> Livings discharged.			
18	15	1	No. 16. Fifehead vic. (St. Martin) abb. of Mochelney, imp. dean and chapter of Bristol. -	0	14	3¼
43	2	11	No. 17. Ifle Abbots vic. alias Abbots Ifle, abb. of Mochelney, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - - -	0	16	0
			Diocese of Bath and Wells, Somerset.			
40	17	0½	No. 18. Meriot vic. (All-Saints) fynods 12s. 2d. ob. proxies 13d. abb. of Mochelney, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - -	1	3	1¾
45	9	3	No. 19. Swell vic. (St. Catherine) fynods 9s. 8d. ob. proxies 4d. abb. of Brewton, appr. dean and chapter of Bristol. - -	0	11	0½

Deanry of Ilchester, in the Archdeaconry of Wells.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Livings remaining in charge.			<i>Yearly Tenths.</i>		
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
10	0	0	No. 20. Mochelney vic. (St. Peter and St. Paul)					
			[a curacy only] stipend.* dean and chapter					
			of Bristol patr. abbey of Mochelney propr.			1	0	0

Deanry of Taunton, in the Archdeaconry of Taunton.

<i>King's Books.</i>			Livings remaining in charge.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
18	7	11	No. 21. Kingston vic.† with Cutston chapel, synods					
			9s. 8d. ob. proxies 8d. priory of Taunton					
			15s. dean and chapter of Bristol, priory of					
			Taunton impr.	-	-	1	16	9½

Diocese of York.

Deanry of Bingham, county of Nottingham.

			Livings remaining in charge.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
15	2	1	No. 22. St. Michael's in Sutton-Bonnington rec. ar-					
			chiepisc. pro. syn. 6s. pro. prox. 6s. 8d.					
			dean and chapter of Bristol.	-	-	1	10	2½

Diocese of Exeter, county of Devon.

Deanry of Tiverton, in the Archdeaconry of Exeter.

<i>Clear yearly Value.</i>			Livings discharged.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
46	0	0	No. 23. Halberton vic. ‡ (St. Andrew) episc. prox.					
			2s. 8d. Archdiac. prox. syn. and cath.					
			11s. 3d. dean and chapter of Bristol propr.					
			and patr.	-	-	3	2	0

Diocese of Landaff, Monmouthshire.

Deanry of Newport.

			Livings discharged.					
<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>				<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
20	0	0	No. 24. Marisfield, alias Merishfield vic. (belonged for-					
			merly to the abby of Bristol) syn. and prox.					
			quolibet tertio anno 20d. dean and chapter					
			of Bristol patr. and propr.	-	-	0	12	3
35	0	0	No. 25. St. Melon's vic. (belonged formerly to the abby					
			of Bristol) syn. and prox. 6s. 11d. chapter					
			of Bristol, impr. Bishop of Landaff.			1	0	1¾

Clear

* Mochelney is certified to the Governors of Q. Ann's bounty to be of the clear yearly value of 10l.

† Kingston vic. is certified to the Governors of Queen Ann's bounty to be of the clear yearly value of 49l. 18s. 8d.

‡ Halberton in the original is called a rectory,—it was in the year 1725 augmented by the Queen's bounty, and the dean and chapter of Bristol and others.

*Clear yearly Value.**Yearly Tenths.*

<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
10	0	0	Rumpney vic. (St. Augustin's) belonged formerly to the abby of Bristol, syn. & prox. 20d. Chapels, donatives, or curacies.	0	11	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
			No. 26. Peterstone-Wentlog cur. (St. Peter) 12l. certified value, dean and chapter of Bristol impr.			
			<i>N. B.</i> The following livings did formerly belong to the abby of St. Augustin in Bristol.			
			Diocese of Bath and Wells.			
			Deanery of Poulet alias Pawlet.			
			Livings discharged.			
47	14	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Poulet vic. alias Pawlet (St. John Baptist) prox. 20d. synods 8s. 5d. ob. The King. Abby St. Augustini Bristol propr.	1	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
			Diocese of Gloucester and Deanry of Gloucester.			
			Livings discharged.			
30	0	0	Witcomb magna rec. (St. Mary) Abby St. Augustini in Bristol, olim impr. Sir Michael Hicks.	4	6	8
			Deanry of Hawkisbury.			
35	0	0	Wapley vic. (St. Peter) synod and prox. 8s. 8d. chapter of Bristol, (W.) Abby St. Augustini Bristol olim impr. Robert Codrington, Esq; 1705, tenant to the dean and chapter.	0	15	9
			Diocese of Landaff and Deanry of Landaff.			
			Livings discharged.			
8	0	0	Pennarth vic. alias Penmarth (St. Austin) episc. &c. Archdeacon 7s. 5d. Abby St. Aug. Bristol propr.			
			Thomas Lewis, Esq; 1716.	0	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$

The liberal endowment and revenues of this church, we are told by Heylin, were very much impaired in the time of Queen Elizabeth, when for thirty-two years together it had no bishop but was all that time held in commendam by the Bishops of Gloucester, and it is now esteemed almost the least valuable bishoprick.

The pious Charles 1st. defender of the faith, and of the church of England by law established therein, the tenth year of his reign, made a very necessary provisional order for the preservation of the revenues of bishopricks, inserted at length in Sir Robert Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire. p. 12. " by which bishops

bishops were enjoined not to let any lease belonging to their bishopricks into lives, which were not in lives already, but that the leases should be for years; for by turning the leases of twenty-one years into lives, the present bishop might put a great fine into his own purse to enrich himself, wife, and children, and leave the succeeding bishops, of what desert soever to the church, destitute of that growing means which else would come in unto them: by which course if continued the bishop would scarce be able to live and keep house according to his place." This evidences the great care that monarch had for the good of the church and its right government by bishops. For "prelacy and under it a subordination of ministers in the church," Sir Robert Atkyns observes, "is highly becoming the Divine Wisdom, and therefore belief may easily be given to that croud of primitive writers, who tell us episcopacy was instituted by Christ and his apostles for the perpetual policy of his church. In human wisdom indeed it seems preferable to parity, and therefore it is natural to imagine, it was instituted by the divine. Parity is apt in all societies to breed confusion, which is the reason that many bodies of men have been forced for their own convenience or preservation to set one with more or less authority over the rest. In the very arts, sciences, and professions, we see a preference: the schools have their doctors, masters, and batchelors; the law its serjeants, barristers, and attornies; the camp its captains, lieutenants, and ensigns; the Romans their patricians, knights, and plebians; the country hath its nobility, gentry, and commonalty: and therefore since all mankind have, as it were, received these three degrees of subordination, we can make no difficulty to prefer the episcopal (especially if we consider its first original and high descent) before any other form of church policy, or to believe that the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons, were a divine institution for the administration of the church," which being carefully vigilant over its own members of the establishment as to doctrine and discipline, and allowing free toleration to all who from tender consciences dissent, will thus ever flourish, the glory of this nation and the envy of others.

Bristol being anciently a part of Gloucestershire belonged with it to the diocese of Worcester, and the bishops of that see presided here, till itself being erected into a bishopric by Henry 8th. Paul Bush was appointed the first bishop, some particulars of his life I shall here give and some account of each of his successors in a regular order, as they were promoted to this see.

BISHOPS OF BRISTOL.

The arms of the see are thus blazoned: fable, three ducal coronets in pale or.

1. Paul Bush, S. T. B. was a native of Somersetshire, and entered with the Augustin friars at Oxford in 1513, was of Wadham College, last rector or provincial of the order of Bonnes Hommes at Edington in Wilts, canon residentiary of Salisbury, and chaplain to King Henry 8th. who appointed him by his letters patent, 4th June 1542, the first bishop of this new-erected see, and he received the temporalities of it, 16th June 1542, and was consecrated the 25th of the same month. He soon after alienated the manor of Leigh, near Bristol, a part of the endowment of the bishoprick, by which he deprived it of its best estate, to its great injury and loss. On Queen Mary's accession, having broken his vow of celibacy, and knowing himself obnoxious, he freely gave up his bishoprick 1553, and had the rectory of Winterborn, near Bristol, conferred upon him, having buried his wife that year. He built the episcopal seat and made the choir stalls in the cathedral, and died Oct. 11, 1558, aged 68, and was buried on the north side of the church, near his wife's grave. — He is said to have had great skill in physic, and wrote a treatise on salves and curative remedies. There is the statue of a skeleton, the emblem of mortality, lying on his tomb. He had a grant of arms by Christopher Barker, Garter king at arms, July 7, 1542, argent a fess G. between three boars passant fable, their tusks, hoof, and bristles or. on a fess, a rose between two eagles displayed. Vide Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i. p. 89. more of him. He has this inscription on his tomb: "Hic jacet Dominus Paulus Bush, primus hujus ecclesiæ episcopus, qui obiit 11 die Octobris Anno Domini 1558, ætatis suæ 68, cujus animæ propitiatur Christus.

Dignus, qui primam circum sua tempora mitram

Indueret, jacet hic Bristolienſe Decus:

A patre Bush dictus, Paulum baptisma vocavit,

Virtute implevit nomen utrumque pari.

Paulus Edingtoniæ bis messes preco secutus.

Instituit populum dogmate, Christe, tuo:

Ille animos verbis, impensis pavit egenos,

Hinc fructum arbuſto protulit ille suo.

Ut Madidis arbuſta juvant, ſic fœdere rupto:

Inter discordes pacificator erat."

On a stone in the choir near to his tomb was this engraved: "Of your charitie pray for the soule of Edyth Bush otherwise Ashely, who deceased 8 Oct. 1553."

2. John Holyman, S. T. P. a zealous Roman Catholic preacher and writer against the Lutherans, bred at Winchester school; in 1554, was promoted to the see of Bristol upon the deprivation or resignation of Paul Bush, and was consecrated 18th November. See more of him in Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. i. 91. Fuller commends him as peaceable and committing no bloodshed in his diocese. He died 20th Dec. 1558. Arms were, argent a chevron gules inter three roses proper.

3. Richard Cheyney, B. D. after three years vacancy of the see succeeded, which he held with Gloucester in commendam sixteen years. Camden says, he was "Luthero addictissimus;" whilst his successor to the see of Gloucester Dr. Goodman says, he was a papist with all his servants, and was once suspended for popery. He died 25th April, 1579, and was buried in Gloucester cathedral. Arms, checky or. and azure a fess G. fretty argent. Vide Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. i. p. 592.

4. John Bullingham, S. T. P. retired beyond sea in Queen Mary's reign, and returning was 1567 made by Queen Elizabeth archdeacon of Huntingdon and rector of Withington and Boxwell in Gloucestershire; 1568 was made Doctor of Divinity, prebendary of Lincoln and Worcester. In 1581, Bishop of Gloucester, and had the see of Bristol given in commendam, which he held eight years; and it was then taken from him, and he had Culmington or Kilmington, in the county of Somerset, in lieu of it. He died 20th May, 1598, Bishop of Gloucester, and was buried in that cathedral. Arms, azure an eagle displayed argent, in his beak a branch of beech or. on a chief of the last, a rose betwixt two crosses bottonee gules.

5. Richard Fletcher, S. T. P. bred at Cambridge. In 1583, was Dean of Peterborough and the prebendary of Lincoln: elected Bishop here 14th Dec. is said in Sir John Harrington's *View of the State of the Church*, &c. p. 25. to have taken this see on condition of leasing out its estates to courtiers, which he so extravagantly did that he left little to his successors. In 1593, he was translated to Worcester, whilst this lay vacant thirteen years. He attended Mary Queen of Scots on the scaffold, February 1586, and disturbed her much by officiously persuading her then to change her religion. At length marrying a second wife, Lady Baker, a very handsome widow, he grew very discontented through the Queen's displeasure, he died suddenly by the immoderate use of tobacco, 15th June, 1596, after having sat Bishop of London, where

where he had little enjoyment. He was buried in St. Paul's. Arms, fable, a cross fleury argent, four escalops of the second.

6. John Thornborough, at King James's accession to the throne, after ten year's vacancy of the see, was translated to it from Limerick, 30th May, 1603, with liberty to keep the deanry of York in commendam. He incurred some censure on account of a marriage. He was translated to Worcester, 17th February, 1616. Vide Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. ii. p. 1.

7. Nicholas Felton, was bred at Cambridge, a Norfolk man, rector of St. Mary le Bow, Easton in Essex, and Blagdon in Somerset, was consecrated Bishop 18th December, 1617, but translated the next year to Ely, and died 5th October, 1626. Arms, G. two lions passant in pale ermine ducally crowned or.

8. Rowland Searchfield, was of St. John's College, Oxford, consecrated Bishop 19th May, 1619, died 11th October, 1622, and was buried in Bristol cathedral. Arms, azure, three cross bows stringed argent, a chief or. Vide Wood, vol. i. p. 622.

9. Robert Wright, was warden of Wadham college, &c. but marrying he resigned on the 23d of March, 1622, was consecrated Bishop here, and 1632 he was translated to Litchfield and Coventry. In his time the stone pulpit was made in the body of the cathedral, with the seats for the corporation opposite to it. Vide Wood, vol. ii. p. 654. Arms, party per pale or. and argent, on a chevron azure, three bezants between as many boars heads couped proper. Motto; Dominus mihi adjutor.

10. George Cook, was bred at Cambridge, consecrated Bishop 10th February, 1632, and 1636 translated to Hereford, where he died 10th December, 1646, and was buried there. Arms, parted per pale, ruby, and sapphire, three eagles pearl.

11. Robert Skinner, was consecrated 15th Jan. 1636, and kept Launton in Oxfordshire and Greensnorton in Northamptonshire in commendam with this see. In 1641 he was translated to Oxford, and during the times of the usurpation having suffered much he nevertheless continued to confer orders, and was the only Bishop that did it. He was translated to the see of Worcester, 12th October, 1663, and died in 1670, being buried in that cathedral with the following Latin inscription on a flat marble stone: — "H. I. E. Rev. in Ch. pater ac Dom. Robertus Skinner, Coll. St. Trinitatis Oxon socius, Carolo primo Britanniarum monarchæ a sacris, Doctoratum in Ss. theologiâ almæ matris diplomate oblatum sine ambitu cepit. a rectoriâ Launton diocæs. Oxon. ad episcopatum Bristoliensem evocatus, (tantus ecclesiæ filias meruit

cito fieri parens) mox ad sedem Oxoniensem translatus. Turre Londinensi a perduellibus diu incarceratus tam sine culpa quam examine exivit. A Carolo secundo ad sedem Vigorniensem promotus postquam prebyteris sancientiis assuetam dextram sufficiendis præsulibus mutuam dedisset (eorumque quinque a suo collegio *συνχρονικ*) omnibus ante sacrilegam usurpationem episcopus superstes, Junii 14, A. D. 1670, Octogenarius ad summum animarum episcopum ascendit prius gratiâ nunc gloria consecratus." Arms, fable, a chevron or, between three griffins heads erased argent.

12. Thomas Westfield, S. T. P. was advanced to this bishopric, 28th January, 1641. He suffered much from the rebels, and had the profits of his see unjustly detained from him; though afterwards restored by a committee of the rebel parliament, being of such an unexceptionable character that when they restored to him his rights, the committee gave him a pass to go to Bristol, adding therein "that he was a person of great learning and merit." He was such an excellent preacher, that Bishop King said he was born an orator. He was so modest and diffident, that it is said he never ascended the pulpit without trembling, and once fainted away when he was to preach before the King. He died 25th June, 1644, and lies buried in the choir of Bristol cathedral with this inscription, which he composed himself before his death: — "Hic jacet Thomas Westfield, S. T. P. episcoporum infimus, peccatorum primus. obiit 25 Junii 1644 senio et mærore confectus: tu lector, quisquis es, vale et resipisce. Epitaphium ipse dictavit sibi vivus. Monumentum uxor mæstissima Elizabetha Westfield marito desideratissimo posuit superstes." — Arms, f. argent, cross fable. See Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, part 2d. p. 3 to 5. Wood, vol. ii. p. 724.

13. Thomas Howell, S. T. P. nominated by the King Bishop July, 1644, and consecrated by Archbishop Usher, and enthronized 12th April, 1645, was barbarously treated by the rebels. His palace which was then covered with lead, under pretence of having bought the house, they uncovered and sold the lead; which exposed his wife, whom they knew to be then in childbed, to the rain and wind, which with the trouble and grief soon occasioned her death. After many base indignities, they dragged him violently out of the palace, of which they after made a malthouse. He struggling awhile for his property, caught hold of the staple of the door, not knowing where to shelter his poor motherless family of ten children, but they forced him out; and there they ground at a mill erected there as well as made their malt for several years, — and they had it in design to put up a furnace for brewing at the east end of the choir in the place of the altar. The inhuman
usage

usage he received at their hands was such that he could not bear it, but did not long survive their cruelty, and died in less than a fortnight after being thus robbed and pillaged and maltreated. He was esteemed an excellent preacher, and of a mild and meek disposition, a feeling and tender heart, which they broke by this treatment. He died 1646, and was buried in his cathedral at the entrance of the choir out of the south aisle, under a plain stone without any other inscription but this one word, "Expergiscar." He found few well affected in his diocese at his coming thither, yet he left few ill affected in it at his death. He left many poor children behind him; but it is said, he was so well loved at Bristol, that after his decease the city took upon them the care of his children's education, in grateful sense of the memory of this their most worthy father. See Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* vol. ii. p. 656. Arms, G. a falcon, wings expanded, argent.

14. Gilbert Ironside, S. T. P. was born at Hawkbury near Sodbury, in the county of Gloucester, was fellow of Trinity College, Oxon, 1613, rector of Winterborn Steepleton in Dorsetshire, and Yeovilton in Somersetshire, both of which he kept till the Restoration; had a prebend in the church of York, and December 1, 1660, was elected to the see of Bristol, after it had been vacant fourteen years. He was looked upon as the fittest person, being wealthy, to enter upon this mean and reduced bishoprick after such long vacancy. He died here 19th September, 1671, aged 83, and was buried close to the steps of the bishop's seat without monument or inscription. Arms, quarterly azure and G. a cross fleury or.

15. Guy Charlton, S. T. P. was a Cumberland man, educated at Queen's College, Oxford, was proctor 1635, vicar of Bucklebury, Berks, and rector of Havant. He took the side of the Royalists in the rebellion, and suffered accordingly with the rest. After the Restoration he was created Doctor of Divinity, and a chaplain to the King, and dean of Carlisle: and 1660, prebendary of Durham. And the 20th December, 1671, was elected to the see of Bristol, confirmed the 20th January, and consecrated in Henry the seventh's chapel the 11th February following, keeping his prebend in commendam. On the 8th January, 1678, he was translated to the see of Chichester. He died at Westminster, 6th July, 1685, and was buried at Chichester. Arms, or. a lion rampant, G. Motto: "Sans varier."

16. William Goulson, or Gulton, S. T. P. was of Leicestershire, educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and was chaplain to the Dutchess of Somerset, who presented him to Symondsbury, Dorset. He was chosen Bishop of Bristol 16th January, and consecrated at Lambeth 9th of February,

1678. He died at Symondsbury 4th April, 1684, and was buried there in the chancel. After his death the Rev. Thomas Long, prebendary of Exeter, was offered this bishoprick, but he scrupling it at first was denied it afterwards. The arms of Goulston are argent over three bars nebule gules, a bend fable, charged with as many plates. See Wood, vol. ii. p. 684.

17. John Lake, S. T. P. was of Halifax, Yorkshire, and of St. John's College, Cambridge, bishop of the Isle of Man, was translated to Bristol 12th August, 1684, and the next year was hence translated to Chichester. He was one of the seven bishops committed to the Tower for a seditious libel against King James 2d. or rather for subscribing a petition to his Majesty, wherein he and the rest shewed their great averfeness to the distributing and publishing in all their churches the King's late declaration for liberty of conscience, &c. After King William came to the crown he refused taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy to him, and was therefore deprived of his bishoprick. On his death bed the latter end of August, 1689, he publicly declared against them. Arms, A. on a saltire engrailed f. nine annulets or.

18. Jonathan Trelawney, S. T. P. was of Christ Church, Oxon, rector of St. Ives and Southill, county of Cornwall, was consecrated bishop 8th November, 1685, and in April, 1689, he was translated to Exeter, and 1707 thence to Winchester. He died 19th July, 1721, and was buried at Plint or Plenint in Cornwall, the place of his birth, with his ancestors. Arms, argent a chevron fable, betwixt three laurel leaves flipt vert, with the arms of Ulster as a baronet. See Wood, vol. ii. p. 1183.

In Sir John Dalrymple's *Memoirs of Great Britain, &c.* vol. ii. p. 335. is the following letter from this Bishop of Bristol to William Prince of Orange then in the kingdom, 1688.

" May it please your Highness,

" I received the great honour of your Highness's letter, and beg leave to return you my most humble thanks for those kind opinions you have been pleased to conceive of me, which I shall endeavour still to preserve.

" My Lord Shrewsbury (with whose conduct we are all extremely pleased) will give you a full account of what hath been done here, which if your Highness shall approve of, it will be great satisfaction to me, that I have borne some part in the work which your Highness has undertaken with the hazard of your life, for the preservation of the Protestant religion, the laws, and the liberties of this kingdom.

" I desire Almighty God to preserve you as the means of continuing to us the exercise of our holy religion and our laws, and humbly beseech your Highness to believe me very ready to promote so good a work, and on all occasions to approve myself your Highness's

Most obedient, faithful, humble servant,

Bristol, Dec. 5, 1688.

J. BRISTOL."

19. Gilbert Ironside, son of a former bishop of the same name, was consecrated to this see 13th October, 1689, and July 29, 1691, was translated to Hereford. He died 27th August, 1701, aged 69, and was buried in St. Mary Somerset church, London.

20. John Hall, was master of Pembroke College, Oxon, and rector of Aldgate, and was consecrated here 30th August, 1691. He died February 4, 1709-10, at his college, aged 77, and was buried at Bromsgrove, in the county of Worcester, the place of his birth. Arms, A. on a chevron engrailed, inter three lions heads erased, sable, an estoile or.

21. John Robinson, S. T. P. was of Cleasly, in Yorkshire, and bred at Oriel College, 7th August, 1710, was made dean of Windsor and prebendary of Canterbury, and consecrated bishop 19th November, 1710, Lord Privy Seal, and one of her Majesty's honourable privy council and first plenipotentiary at the congress at Utrecht, 1712. He was 13th March, 1713, translated to London, and dying 11th April, 1723, aged 72, was buried in Fulham churchyard. Arms, vert on a chevron f. between three bucks passant or. as many estoiles of the last. See his arms in the west window of Bristol cathedral in coloured glass, also a runic inscription. See Gent. Mag. for August, 1780, p. 373.

22. George Smalridge, S. T. P. was of Litchfield, and student of Christ Church, Oxford, from Westminster school, was prebendary of Litchfield, minister of St. Dunstan's in the West, which he quitted June, 1711, and afterwards was canon of Christ Church, and 1713 dean, and was consecrated bishop 4th April, 1714, and was soon after made Lord Almoner to Queen Ann. Whilst he was bishop here he repaired many of the rooms in the palace at his own cost. He died at his deanry 27th September, 1719, and was buried at Christ Church, Oxon. Arms, f. a cross engrailed or. between four bustards respecting each other argent.

23. Hugh Boulter, S. T. P. was of Magdalen College, Oxon, M. A. 12th May 1693, B. A. 28th March, 1705, D. D. 1st July, 1708, consecrated bishop here 15th November, 1719, being before archdeacon of Surry, rector St. Olave's and dean of Christ Church, and one of George 1st's. chaplains, who attended;

attended him abroad. On the 3d November, 1724, he was translated to the archbishoprick of Armagh, and was made Lord Primate and Metropolitan of all Ireland in room of Dr. Lindsey, deceased. His arms are, or. on a chevron G. three men's skulls of the field.

24. William Bradshaw, was born at Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, and bred at Baliol College, Oxon; took his degree of M. A. at Cambridge, was afterwards D. D. and dean of Christ Church, Oxon, 23d August, 1724, and was elected bishop here 21st September, 1724. He was prebendary of Canterbury and Oxon, and rector of Fawleigh in Hampshire. He died at Bath and was buried in Bristol cathedral 16th December, 1732, aged 62. Arms, argent, two bends fable.

25. Charles Cecil, S. T. P. of Christ Church, Oxon, D. D. and one of his Majesty's chaplains in ordinary, rector of Hatfield in Hertfordshire, a descendant of the Cecils Earl of Salisbury. He was elected Bishop of Bristol 15th January, 1732-3. In the year 1734 he was translated to the bishoprick of Bangor, and died in 1737. Arms, barry of ten, argent and azure, over all six escutcheons fable, 3, 2, 1, each charged with a lion rampant argent.

26. Thomas Secker, L. L. D. of Exeter College, Oxon, M. A. 4th Feb. 1723, for which he was grand compounder. July 9, 1733, he was presented to a prebend of Durham and the rectory of St. James, Westminster, and then to the bishoprick of Bristol the 2d January, 1734-5, and consecrated the 19th. In 1737 he was translated to the see of Oxford, and thence to London, and afterwards to the archbishoprick of Canterbury. Arms, gules, a bend engrailed or. between two bulls head. or.

27. Thomas Gooch, D. D. was master of Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge, and elected bishop here 28th May, 1737, and the year following was translated to Norwich, and thence to Ely, and died at Ely house, Holborn, 14th February, 1754, and was buried the 21st in the chapel of Gonville and Caius college, where a monument with an elegant inscription is erected to his memory. Arms, azure, three boars passant argent.

28. Joseph Butler, L. L. D. of Oriel college, took his degree of Bachelor of the Civil Law 10th June, 1721. He was elected bishop here 6th November, 1738, and consecrated 3d December. He held also the deanry of St. Paul's, London, with this see, and was confirmed therein in 1740. He was clerk of the closet, 1736, to Queen Caroline, and after her decease clerk of the closet to the King. In August, 1738, he was made prebendary of Rochester and had the valuable rectory of Stanhope in the bishoprick of Durham, which he resigned on being made dean of St. Paul's. In August, 1750, he

was

was translated to Durham. In the year 1744 he rebuilt the bishop's palace at Bristol then going to decay, which cost him 5000*l.* where he usually resided five months in the summer. Living a single life and having no relations dependent on him, he laid out all his income, and generously expended more, during the twelve years he was Bishop of Bristol, than he received from the whole fee. In the year 1750 he proposed to the corporation the separation of the out-parish of St. Philip and Jacob, and building of a new church in Kingwood for the better instruction of the colliers and poor inhabitants there in the Christian religion. In 1750 an act of Parliament was obtained for that purpose, and his lordship opened the subscription with 400*l.* and procured 400*l.* more out of Queen Ann's bounty, the corporation subscribed 100*l.* &c. It is the more generous act, as he was soon to leave his palace here and quit the diocese, being about this very time to be translated to Durham, which took place the same year 1750, where he employed 130 workmen to repair that palace also, and became an annual subscriber of 400*l.* to the county hospital there. He died Tuesday 16th June, 1752, at Bath, in the 63d year of his age, and was buried in a deep brick grave, in which Gilbert Ironside in 1671 was interred, at the foot of the bishop's seat in Bristol cathedral, Bishop Howell lying on the right, and Bishop Bradshaw on the left side, with the following inscription on his stone :

H. S.

Reverendus admodum in Christo Pater

Josephus Butler, L. L. D.

Hujusce primò diæceseos,

Deinde Dunelmensis, Episcopus,

Qualis quantusq; vir erat,

Sua libentissime agnovit ætas :

Et, siquid præfuli aut scriptori ad famam valent

Mens altissima, ingenii perspicacis et subacti vis,

Animusq; pius, simplex, candidus, liberalis;

Mortui haud facile evanescet memoria.

Obiit Bathoniis

16 kal. Jul. A. D. MDCCLII.

Annos natus LX.

His arms are, argent, between two bendlets engrailed, three covered cups fable.

29. John Conybeare, S. T. P. born in Devonshire, was educated at Tiverton school, afterwards fellow of Exeter college, Oxon, where he took his degrees of A. M. and D. D. was esteemed learned, and cultivated a fine genius by studious application; an eminent orthodox divine and powerful preacher. In 1742 he was made Dean of Christ Church, and 1750, 27th Nov, Bishop of Bristol, and 1751, 9th August, came hither being his first visitation. He died 13th July, 1755, and was buried here. After his death four volumes in octavo of his sermons were published, to which most of the nobility, clergy and gentry subscribed.

30. John Hume, D. D. of Christ Church college, Oxford, rector of Barnes in Surry, and bishop here 23d July, 1756, and in 1758 he was translated to Oxford, and in 1774 to Salisbury, where he continued to his death.

31. Philip Young succeeded bishop here 4th August, 1758; had been master of Jesus college, Cambridge, and canon residentiary of St. Paul's, and was translated to Norwich in 1761.

32. Thomas Newton, was born 1st December, 1703, O. S. son of John Newton, a considerable brandy and cider merchant, by a daughter of Rev. Mr. Rhodes, who was consumptive and died of that disorder, when her son was but a year old, from whom he seemed to have inherited a tender constitution. He was educated in the free school of Litchfield, under the direction of Mr. Hunter, famous for having produced several persons of note and eminence. He went at fourteen years of age to Westminster school, by the advice of Dr. Keck, whose daughter his father had married for a second wife. The school at that time was never in higher estimation, having five hundred scholars, under the auspices of Dr. Friend and Dr. Nicholls. In 1719 he lost his friend and patron, Bishop Smalridge. He continued six years at Westminster school, in the last was captain. In 1723 he was elected to Cambridge through Dr. Bentley, where he resided eight months every year, till he had taken his Bachelor of Arts degree, when he was chosen fellow, after which he went to settle in London, and prepared himself according to his inclination from a child for holy orders, and composed about twenty sermons, which he wrote in a large legible character, that he might never have occasion to copy them. In all his compositions at school, at the university, and every where, always his method was to finish the whole before he wrote down any part of it; and to some of his friends he repeated several of his sermons word for word before he committed a tittle to writing, so that he saved abundance of paper, without blotting or interlining, and could easily have preached without notes if he pleased. His title for orders was his fellowship, and he was ordained
deacon

deacon 21st December, 1729, when twenty-six years old; and priest in February following by that great and worthy prelate Bishop Gibson. He became curate at St. George's church, Hanover-square, and continued for several years assistant preacher to Dr. Trebeck, whose ill health disabled him from performing his duty. His first preferment was that of reader and afternoon preacher at Grosvenor chapel in South Audley-street, and by this means became tutor to Lord Carpenter's son, being taken into that family, where he lived several years much at his ease, and in great intimacy and friendship of Lord and Lady Carpenter; and living at no kind of expence, he was tempted to gratify his taste in the purchase of books and paintings and prints, and made the beginning of a collection, which was continually receiving considerable additions and improvements.

Here he stuck for some time without any promotion, sometimes preached the turns of some of the prebendaries of Westminster Dr. Friend and Dr. Nichol, and was in the friendship of Bishop Chandler and the Bishop of Durham; the latter, though he continued bishop twenty years, yet he bestowed no preferment on this young man (Newton), of whose company he was ever so very desirous that when he stayed away any time from his house in visiting him, he sent for him and kindly reproved him. In 1738 he became acquainted with Dr. Pearce, afterwards Bishop of Rochester, who freely and in a most handsome manner offered to appoint him morning preacher at the chapel in Spring Garden, where was a very full and polite congregation, consisting principally of noble families from Whitehall and of those of the Lords of the Admiralty, and other good families in that neighbourhood. This piece of preferment was the beginning of a valuable connection with a very learned and a very good man Bishop Pearce. He was afterwards with Dr. Pearce frequently at dinner at Lord Bath's, who proved a most sincere, worthy, and valuable friend to him; and by means of Mrs. Ann Deane Devonish, intimate with the Prince and Princess of Wales, he became noticed by their Royal Highnesses, and introduced to the acquaintance of the Earl of Bath, two of the most fortunate circumstances of his life. He was now appointed first chaplain to the Earl of Bath, by whose interest in the spring 1744 he was preferred to the rectory of St. Mary le Bow in Cheapside, so that he was forty years old before he obtained any living. He now quitted the chapel in Spring Garden, his fellowship became vacant, and in 1745 he took the degree of Doctor in Divinity. During the Rebellion he published two sermons on the occasion, and one preached the 18th of December before the House of Commons. In the spring of 1747 Dr. Newton was chosen lecturer of St. George's, Hanover-square,

square, in the room of Dr. Savage, deceased; and in the month of August following he married his first wife Jane, eldest daughter of Rev. Dr. Trebeck, an unaffected, modest, decent, young woman, with whom he lived seven years very happy in mutual love and harmony. As they had no children they continued to board in the parsonage house with Dr. Trebeck, free from the trouble of house-keeping. In 1749 was published Dr. Newton's quarto edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*, which has gone through eight editions, a sign of its being well received. The Prince and Princess of Wales did him the honour of being two of his subscribers. He next published the *Paradise Regain'd* and other poems of Milton. In 1751 Dr. Newton preached a funeral sermon on the death of the Prince of Wales at St. George's, which excited the notice of the Princess, who made him one of her chaplains, and was particularly gracious to him ever after. In 1754 he lost his father and wife. It was happy his mind was now much engaged in writing the *Dissertations on the Prophecies*, for plunging deep into study was a great relief to him in this affliction. This work was well received and translated into French and German in 1761. In 1757 he at length after many promises and disappointments by the Duke of Newcastle, procured a prebend of Westminster, in the room of Dr. Green, deceased, and was made sub-almoner to Gilbert, Archbishop of York, who gave him also the precentorship of that church, which he held till he succeeded Dr. Young in the bishoprick of Bristol and residentiaryship of St. Paul's. He was consecrated bishop at Christmas, 1761, the King having of his own motion made him bishop, so that he was not indebted to any minister for his promotion. Though in the year 1764 he was offered the primacy of Ireland, yet being then past sixty, and having no family to provide for, and preferring a quiet competency to pomp and greatness, he continued Bishop of Bristol and Dean of St. Paul's to his death. He usually resided at Bristol all the summer season, attending his cathedral church as often as his health very tender and precarious would permit, lamenting the too frequent absence of the dean and non-residence of the prebendaries, and even remonstrating against it. Having frequent returns of spitting of blood and never without a cough, he at last expired without a groan, sinking down in his chair as he attempted to take out his watch to see what it was o'clock, on February 15, 1782, and was buried Thursday 28th in the vaults under the south aisle at St. Paul's.

33. Lewis Bagot, a very learned and pious man, was made Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, 21st January, 1773, where he preserved good discipline, and was promoted to this bishoprick, and translated to Norwich the next year. He

He has published a volume of very ingenious discourses, in which he has confuted the specious opinions of Deism and Infidelity by the most convincing arguments.

33. Christopher Wilson succeeded, being one of the prebendaries of St. Paul's, London, and is the present Bishop, 1788.

DEANS of BRISTOL, with the time of their installation.

William Snow, last prior of Bradenstock, 4th June, -	1542	William Levett, 10th January,	1685
William Whiteheare, 26th July,	1551	George Royse, 10th March,	1693
George Carew, 5th November,	1552	Hon. Robert Booth, 20th June,	1708
Henry Jolliffe, 9th September,	1554	Samuel Crefwick, 8th Sept.	1730
John Sprint, 16th February,	1570	Tho. Chamberlayne, 24th Dec.	1739
Anthony Watson, 21st July,	1590	William Warburton,* 25th Oct.	1757
Simon Robson, 21st April,	1598	Samuel Squire,† 21st June,	1760
Edward Chetwyn, 26th July,	1617	Francis Ayscough, 5th June,	1761
Matthew Nicholas, 22d June,	1639	Cutts Barton, - - -	1768
Henry Glemham, 14th Sept.	1660	John Hallam, 22d February,	1781
Richard Towgood, 1st May,	1667		
Samuel Crossman, 4th February,	1683		
Richard Thomson, 25th May,	1684		

The ARCHDEACONS of DORSET.

The endowment of this archdeaconry in the church of Bristol is the impropriation and advowson of Gussage All Saints in Dorsetshire. The valuation of it for the first fruits was 82 l. 12 s. 8 d. in the year 1534.

T T 2

Thomas

* He was a learned man and great writer and polemical divine. His Julian is esteemed much, and his Divine Legation of Moses is replete with learning, but contains some paradoxical notions. He was presented to the bishoprick of Gloucester, in which he continued to his death.

† He wrote some tracts on religion, and was made Bishop of St. David.

Thomas Cranmer, 10th Dec.	1542	Robert Cooper, 5th March,	1697
John Cottrell, 4th April,	1551	Edward Hammond, 10th May,	1733
Toby Matthews succeeded, afterwards Archbishop of York, a native of Bristol.		John Walker, 21st May, -	1740
		Died at 82, 8th November, 1780, after being forty years	
Henry Tuckner, - -	1574	archdeacon	
Edward Wickham, - -	1607	George Hand, 18th November, 1780	
Richard Fitzherbert, 27th Aug.	1621		
Richard Meredith, 25th July,	1660		
Ralph Ironside, - -	1668		
John Fielding, 25th March,	1683		

PREBENDARIES of BRISTOL, and the time of their being presented.

It has been usual, in giving the succession of the prebendaries, to rank them in order according to the stall they filled when living, placing the successor in the stall of the deceased, which for the sake of method shall be followed here, and it really is the case at St. Paul's and most other cathedral or collegiate churches; but in Bristol the successor takes the lowest stall, and there is a general remove, though it is uncertain when that method was adopted. But as there are no particular estates or livings annexed to each stall here, and the whole chapter income is thrown together and divided, it is a matter of little consequence, but for the sake of order and the customary method.

FIRST STALL.

John Gough, 4th June, -	1542	Richard Thompson, - -	1684
John Barlow, - -	1545	Walter Hart, 13th September,	1685
John Rixman, - -	1554	Deprived 1690, for not taking the oaths to King William and Queen Mary	
William Dalby, - -	1558		
Arthur Sawle, - -	1559		
Richard Hackluyt, - -	1585	Nathaniel Lies, - -	1691
Christopher Green, - -	1616	John Sutton, 22d July, -	1723
Richard Towgood, - -	1660	Walter Chapman, 15th Feb.	1740
Samuel Croffman, - -	1667		

SECOND STALL.

Roger Edgeworth, 4th June,	1542	Robert Gullyford, rector of	
Christopher Pacy, - -	1560	Wraxal, Somerset, 16th Sept.	1596
Thomas Thackam, 11th Sept.	1590	Thomas Bisse, 19th February,	1612
William Buckle, 12th Sept.	1592	Thomas Tucker, 23d Nov.	1632
		Richard	

Richard Standfast, 25th August, 1660	James Harcourt, 24th Nov. 1711
John Rainstorp, 30th Sept. 1684	Henry Waterland, 16th April, 1739
Thomas Cary, 20th May, 1693	

THIRD STALL.

Henry Morgan, 4th June, - 1542	William Yeamans, 26th Dec. 1622
Richard Huys, - - - 1554	John Weeks, 3d March, - 1633
John Bridgewater, - - - 1563	Thomas Horne, - - - 1669
Clement Forthe, - - - 1576	Richard Smith, 30th April, 1697
Robert Temple, - - - 1584	Joseph Calberd, 2d June, - 1717
Samuel Davies, 12th Sept. - 1661	G. Henry Rooke, 23d Nov. 1751

FOURTH STALL.

Roger Hughes, 4th June, - 1542	George Cuthbert, 20th Oct. 1629
John Cottrel, 31st December, 1572	William Kempe, 23d Oct. - 1660
Thomas Withered, - - - 1573	Samuel Wood, 29th June, - 1664
John Saunders, - - - 1577	John Chetwynd, 29th June, 1668
John Dixe, 24th May, - 1596	Charles Livesay, 10th March, 1693
John Wilkinson, 19th Feb. 1613	John Castleman, 22d May, 1739

FIFTH STALL.

Richard Broom, 4th June, - 1542	John Dashfield, 16th July, - 1660
John Williams, 4th March, 1543	Theophilus St. Quintin, 9th Nov. 1665
Thomas Sylke, 4th June, - 1546	Stephen Crespion, 3d August, 1683
Francis Willis, - - - 1576	Hugh Waterman, 11th Dec. 1711
Charles Langford, - - - 1586	Richard Monins, 30th July, 1746
William Hill, 26th February, 1606	John Aylmer, 15th September, 1750
Robert Marks, 13th Sept. - 1619	

SIXTH STALL.

George Dogeon, 4th June, - 1542	John Baron, 24th November, 1713
Thomas Bayley, 23d January, 1552	Henry Head, 2d March, - 1721
Edward Green, - - - 1583	John King, 12th June, - 1728
William Norris, 12th Nov. - 1627	John Billingsly, 20th Sept. 1738
George Williamfon, 7th Aug. 1643	Nathaniel Forster,* 1st Feb. 1754
Richard Towgood, 30th July, 1685	

The

* He published a neat and correct edition of the Hebrew Bible in 4to. in elegant types, not deformed with points, an invention of the Rabbies, and was skilled in Hebrew learning, so necessary to a divine.

The Prebendaries that regularly succeeded after the Rev. Dr. Forster were,
 Horace Hammond, 15th June, 1754 Thomas Powis, 30th March, 1779
 Josiah Tucker,* 10th October, 1756
 Bertie Henley, 7th January, 1758
 John Cocks, 28th August, - 1758
 James Welton, 21st July, - 1760
 Charles Tarrant, 9th February, 1761
 Edward Dicey, 28th January, 1773
 William Speke, 6th February, 1776

CHANCELLORS of BRISTOL DIOCESE.

John Cotterel, 4th June, - 1542	Henry Jones, 16th November, 1669
William Dalby, - - - 1556	Charles Sloper, 4th June, - 1695
John Sprint, - - - 1572	Carew Reynell, 13th Sept. - 1727
William Jones, - - - 1574	William Cary, 28th Jan. 1744-5
Felix Lewis, - - - 1580	James Backhouse, - - 1759
William Clark, 9th March, 1584	
Francis James, 31st July, - 1590	
Sir James Hufley, - - 1603	
Gilbert Jones, 26th August, 1625	

* Afterwards Dean of Gloucester, distinguished for his various ingenious writings on trade, politics, &c.

C H A P. X.

*Of the COLLEGIATE CHURCH and HOSPITAL of the VIRGIN MARY
and ST. MARK, called the GAUNTS of BILLESWYCK,
now the MAYOR's CHAPEL.*

THIS Church is sometimes called St. Mark's, being dedicated as above, not to St. Martin as Prynne has it; at other times the Gaunt's of Billefwyck from the original founder and the name of the manor in which it was built, and with part of which it was endowed. — This name of Billefwyck was probably given to it from the pleasantness of the site of it, (Bellus vicus.) It is not a very large or elegant structure, but by a generous vote of the corporation of this city, the patrons of this curacy, in 1722 it was repaired at the expence of the chamber and beautified, and it is now made a chapel for the mayor and corporation to attend divine service and hear a sermon every Sunday morning and on public days, for which the reader has 25l. per ann. and the preacher 20s. for every sermon. It was before this time by their permission made use of by the French refugees as a place of worship, who have erected their chapel since in Orchard-street.

It is observable that this chapel is not built as churches commonly are East and West, but rather nearer to the North and South, for which some assign this reason, that it was to point to the place of residence of the joint founders and their ancestors, Berkeley Castle; others that it should point towards the lands with which it was endowed.

The foundation is by some supposed to be begun by Robert de Berkeley, alias de Were, the second Lord of Berkeley, who married Alicia daughter and heiress of Robert de Gaunt Baron of Folkingham, and to be finished by his only son Maurice de Gaunt, who had assumed the surname of Gaunt from his mother's family. The exact year when built is a little uncertain, one manuscript has it in the year 27th of Henry the 3d. Maurice died * the 14th of Henry the 3d. 1230. Robert de Gourney his heir and nephew is more justly supposed to be the founder by order or by the will of his uncle Maurice de

* Maurice's charter is extant in the church of Wells.—Sir Rob. Atkyns; p. 475.

de Gaunt; and a charter belonging to St. Augustin's monastery dated 1251, seems to point it out that the year of its erection was immediately after the death of Maurice de Gaunt, 1230. William of Worcester says, "*Ecclesia religionum &c.*—The church of the religious called les Gauntes, the nave of it is 43 steps in length, 26 steps in breadth." p. 188. And in p. 247, "in the sanctuary of St. Augustin on the North part of the town of Bristol is the church of religion dedicated to St. Mark."

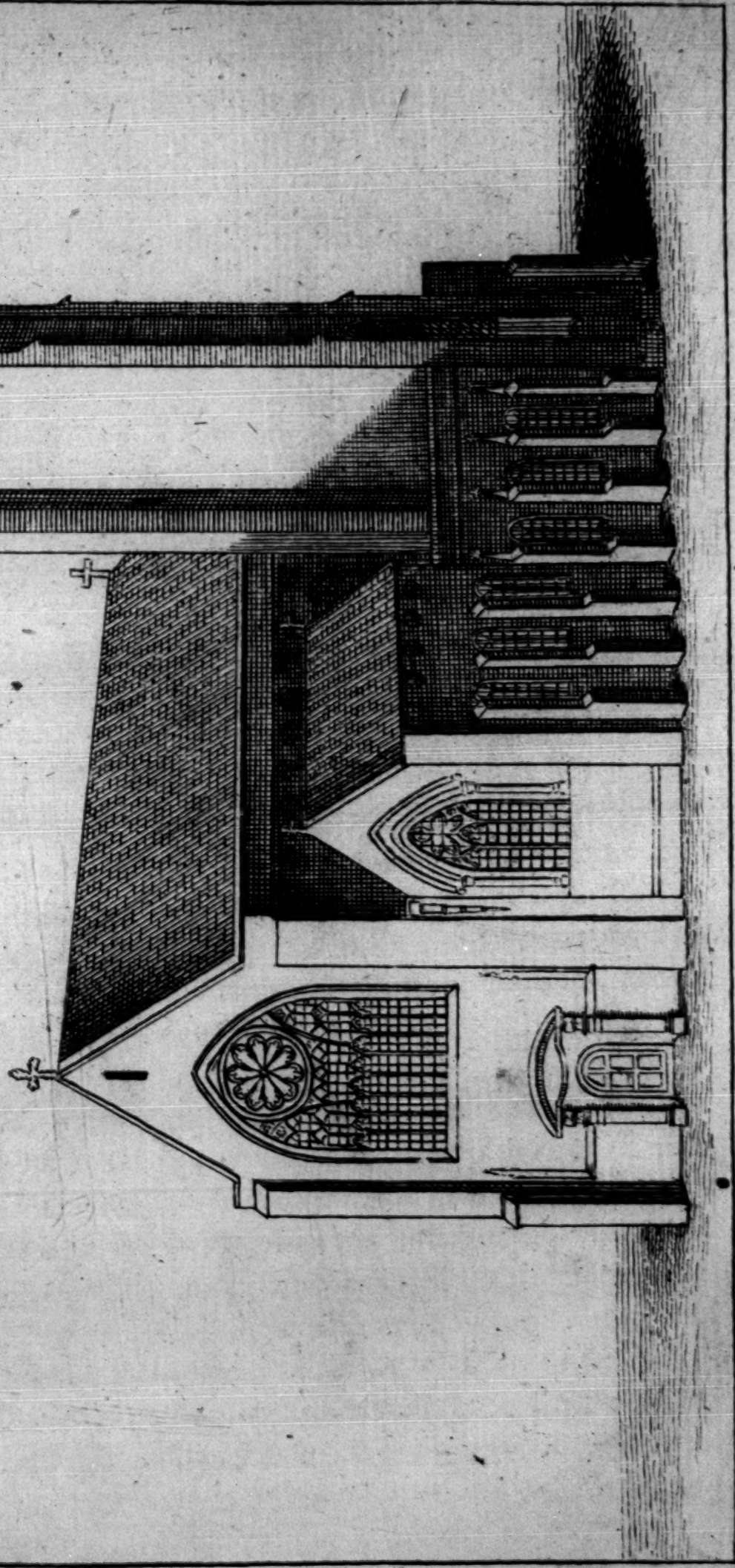
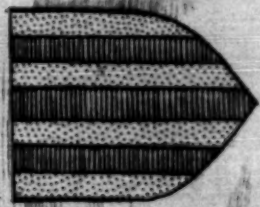
The church at present, which was formerly much larger, consists of a body and one side aisle; the length from the South door in the Green is about 123 feet, its breadth 24 feet and a half, the height from the floor to the roof, which is neatly wainscotted in the inside, is about 37 feet, the covering is of stone tiles: behind the altar is a lofty window of painted glass, which has been taken away and plain glass fixed in its room. It represented in the most beautiful colours Judas betraying our Saviour and delivering him to the soldiers, the scourging, the bearing of the cross, crucifixion, taking down from the cross and ascension from the tomb; the figures were large and in good drawing; above these in the upper part of the window still remain painted in glass the arms or badge of the house, viz. f. gules three geese argent; also the arms of Robert de Gourney, a founder and benefactor, viz. f. or. three pales azure; and likewise those of the Berkeleys: over this window on the outside is a date run into the freestone with lead, 1823 (1423.) At the entrance of the South door behind the large window there is a gallery with this inscription, "This gallery was erected and the chapel beautified at the charge of the chamber of this city, John Becher, Esq; mayor, and Noblet Ruddock and John Rich, Esqrs. sheriffs, in the year 1722;" and in the year 1772 a neat organ was put there and the whole chapel again repaired and beautified.

At the East side this aisle is joined by another about 14 feet and a half broad, making the whole church next the Green to be 39 feet broad: here is a large freestone pillar which supports two arches, making the widest part of the church about 36 feet in length, and about 36 feet longer it is walled up, having a door for communication out of the greater into the lesser aisle, in all 72 feet long: 36 feet of which is a flat wainscot roof with several carved coats of arms, differing much from the other part of the aisle. In this aisle are several handsome monuments. The tower at the North end of this aisle is in height to the leads 86 feet, having 115 steps; the whole building is of freestone 16 feet by 17 square, with battlements 5 feet high from the leads with pinnacles at each corner; in the tower are six bells: the best idea of it may be formed from the copper-plate Under the tower at the East front is a small low door

to

Now the Mayors - Charles

Now the Mayors - Chaple.





to enter the church, and on the North side another by which you enter into a small room, formerly a confessional with two arches in the wall between this room and the high altar for the priest and penitent; there are eight curious niches round the room in which images were formerly fixed. The roof is vaulted with freestone, in the center of which are two curious shields with several coats of arms in freestone, viz. England and France, the Gournays, Points of Acton in the county of Gloucester, &c.

The floor is covered with square glazed bricks having many coats of arms on them, and under the floor is a large vault, the entrance of which in 1730 fell in, and upon examining the corps there deposited, supposed to be those of the founders of the church, there was found a gold bodkin entangled in some hair, but it was closed up again. This room is now used by the chaplains of the church to put on their surplices &c. On the West side of the great aisle is a large arch answering to that under the tower, and probably the church might originally extend further that way; on the same side were the cloisters belonging thereto, and also the old hospital of Billefwyck, scarce any remains of which are now extant; and the orchard belonging to it was ordered the 41st of Elizabeth the 19th of June, then holden by Mr. Beach, not to be let after to any person but to be reserved to Queen Elizabeth's Hospital; but in process of time it was built upon and converted into a street, now called Orchard-street.

In this small but neat church are many stately and superb monuments and some ancient statues in stone. The right of sepulture in the ground before this church was formerly disputed, and William Chew perpetual vicar of St. Augustin's the Less was accused in the year 1426 at a court held in the said church, and found guilty of with-holding and receiving to his own use the oblations and customary dues and offerings for burying the dead that lived and died within the bounds of the hospital of St. Mark, usually enjoyed by the master and brethren there; particularly that in 1420 on Palm Sunday he carried away the bodies of William Leach and Christin the mother of John Hore, and Andrew Hutchins, from the cemetery of the said hospital or house of St. Mark, though they lived and died there, and seized and kept dues to the value of a 100 shillings; and that the said William heaping evil upon evil did also draw away and solicit Sybil Hutchings, who lived within the precincts of the said hospital, from purification after childbirth to be made by her of right in the said hospital, and kept the wax tapers and the garment called chrysmar, the offering to the said hospital and the other obventions on account of the said purification belonging to the religious brethren of St. Mark, and

unjustly refused giving any satisfaction; which the said vicar Chew confessed, and was therefore condemned in ecclesiastical excommunication for his obstinacy, but on his causing the bodies which he had rashly and injuriously buried in the churchyard of St. Augustin the Less out of their proper burial place to be carried back and interred with all customary forms observed in the said hospital of St. Mark; and on his returning the taper and chrysmar and the 100 shillings, the master and brethren there acknowledged themselves satisfied, and at the petition of the said brethren and William the vicar, he was absolved from the sentence of excommunication given against him, "*cum Sancta ecclesia nulli claudat gremium.*"

The right of sepulture formerly was no small thing to contend for, since many of the best families and the greatest barons in the land often by their will ordered their bodies to be buried in such a particular religious house, and it was very beneficial to the friars to enjoy such a privilege, since commonly some endowment for a chantry, some annual celebration of the obit was left them at the same time with lamps, masses, &c. for the souls of the persons there deposited, many instances of which will hereafter occur. To shew farther the disposition of those times; I find also in the time of William Long being abbot, a dispute arose betwixt the monastery of St. Augustin and the house of St. Mark, concerning the site of the said house and works carried on there, and their instituting a college there, and concerning the possessions given by will of Maurice de Gaunt the founder for support of the poor, and some losses having been incurred, and concerning the right of sepulture there. It was at length thus settled: that the said house of St. Mark should be free from all exactions and claims of that of St. Augustin, and have all tithes and oblations that may arise within its bounds; that it should have a free monastery at their own disposal and management, a free burying ground, ornaments, bells, &c.; that the bodies of any dead might be received and buried, but that the plain of St. Augustin was the common burial ground belonging to St. Augustin's monastery, &c. &c. and to finish the matter at length Walter Bishop of Worcester to prevent any more contention and rancour between them ordered that neither of them should have common of pasture in the said plain, as they both agreed in its being the cemetery of St. Augustin; but if any animals should enter the said plain or green for pasture, and the owner not remove them, being thrice warned by the vicar of St. Augustin the Less, or some other clerk of the said church, he might pound them till freed by discharge: the delinquents to pay half a mark as a mulct to the bishop; that the bodies lately buried before the gate of the house of St. Mark

Mark remain there, but that the earth rose above the level be removed and made plain, on account of the pleasantness of the place: nevertheless it should not be the less reckoned a cemetery by the removal of the earth. He ordained that on account of the pleasantness of the place the dead bodies should be buried in that part of the cemetery where they were used to be and no where else, unless the diocesan or his official should think, that use required it, and that those of the house of St. Mark might have free ingress, egress, in and out of the said plain, for the sake of going, walking, and wandering where they pleased, of driving carriages, drays, and carts through the roads useful and necessary for them, and accustomed. He ordered also that the abbot of St. Augustin might mow the said plain without hindrance of any one and strew the grass in his churches of St. Augustin the Greater and the Less, with this proviso that the abbot make no defence called *Hayinge* in hindrance of the granted privileges to the house of St. Mark; but the mower while there must not be hindered, reserving all accustomed privileges and rights to the monastery of St. Augustin and those that dwell there, except the right of pasture. This deed is dated 1251.

This right of sepulture being thus acknowledged here, the house of St. Mark reaped great advantages from it, and especially from the burials in their church, lands being frequently granted them by families buried there, they only finding a priest to pray for the souls of the departed. Few small churches have so many handsome monuments, many belonging to noble families, which I shall proceed to give some account of as they occur.

MONUMENTS in the church of St. MARK.

At the entrance on the 22d of August, 1680, was buried Captain William Bedlow, without any memorial or inscription, though he deserved to be chronicled for the particulars of his life. He is said to be concerned in the Rye-house plot in Charles 2d's time, and with Titus Oates pretended to discover the authors of the death of Sir Edmundsbury Godfrey, 1678; and on the oaths of these two many were executed, who all denied the charge with their latest breath. Bedlow was buried near the great door next the green, and his funeral expences are said to be discharged by the chamber of the city, his goods having been seized and carried out of the house for the large debts he had contracted.

At the west end of the east aisle, next the College-green, is a lofty handsome monument with the following inscription thereon.

U U 2

Near

Near this place lie the remains of William Hilliard, Esq; who was born at Sea House in the parish of Ilminster, in the county of Somerset:

After having by his bright parts soon acquired the knowledge usually taught in school, he entered himself a gentleman commoner in Wadham college in Oxford, where he made himself master of the liberal sciences; then travelled over the greatest part of Europe, and returned to his native land a compleat gentleman, and master of the European languages; was put into the commission of the peace, for which he was well qualified. He married Mary the widow of William Blome, Esq; one of the daughters and coheiresses of Gabriel Goodman, Esq; who by her last will left 200l. to erect this monument to his memory. Among other charitable legacies he left 100l. to the poor of the parish of St. Augustin in this city.

The following was inscribed on a stone here to Dr. Patrick Keir:—
 “Morte tandem oppressus qui olim triumphos reportavit H. S. E. Patrick Keir, M. D. Vir egregiâ indole et modestâ, eâ morum suavitate ut quot usus est familiaribus tot sibi conciliavit amicos, ea morum suavitate ut conciliatos usque asservaverit: rei medicæ eximiè peritus, aliorum salutis curator sedulus, prodigus interim suæ; similis vitæ cultus modestus et luxuriæ animosus hostis, cautus in necessitudinibus amicitiae ineundis, in servandis fidus: si plura velis ætas præsens, quæ novit, enunciet, pereunte illâ huic marmori nepotes credant. Obiit 17 Decembris. Ætatis 37.” He wrote a treatise on the Bristol waters.

In the same aisle are some neat monuments against the wall, and in the tables thereof are epitaphs inscribed:

To Henry Walter, Esq; sometime mayor and alderman, &c. who died 11 July 1742, aged 75.

Henrico Blaake de Pinnels Agro Wiltonⁱ. obiit 10 Julii 1731, ætat 72.

To John Cookin of Highfield, he died 12 March 1627, aged 11.—A neat statue of a boy kneeling on one knee, well executed.

Memoriæ æternæ Georgii Upton Armigeri viri optimi & ornatissimi qui cum 55 annos bene vixisset, placide obdormivit Janⁱⁱ. 25^o. natali suo A. Dⁱ. 1608.

Quæ lux prima tulit te, te abstulit, ergo superstes
 Cum nequeas vitæ vivere vive neci:
 Integra vita fuit, pia mors, mens dedita Christo,
 Hæc facient tumulo te superesse tuo.
 Lugens posuit Edwardus Bisse.

To

To the never dying memory of Margaret Throgmorton, late wife of Sir Baynam Throgmorton of Clovewall in the county of Gloucester, Bart. and youngest daughter of Robert Hopton of Whiteham in the county of Somerset, Esq; she died 18 Aug. 1635, aged 25, with 14 lines of poetry in her praise in English. Arms, G. or. a chevron argent, barry of six fable, crest on a wreath, a falcon volant proper.

To John Carr, an arched tomb in the wall with no statue on it or epitaph, but in the front some plain shields, and in a cypher J. C.

To Sir Henry de Gaunt, his statue at length on his back in an arch. He was the second master of the hospital of Gaunts about 1230.

Gulielmo Swift, publicæ scholæ hujus civitatis moderatori. Obiit pridie calend. Junii anno salutis 1623, ætat. 52.

To the virtuous Dorothy Popham, late wife of the Hon. Col. Al. Popham. She died March, 1643. Also Sir Francis Popham, Knight, who died 16 March, 1646. Arms, in a shield 32 coats quartered, the first is two bucks heads for Popham. This Dorothy was daughter of — Cole, Esq; of Nailsea, Somerset. Alexander son and heir of Alexander and Dorothy is buried here, May, 1642.

At the upper end of this east aisle on a raised tomb lie the statues of two Knights armed in mail save their faces, their right hands on their sword hilts, on the left their shield, with their legs across, which shews them to be knights of the holy war or crusade, which ended with Henry 3d's. reign, 1268. None of these cross-legged monuments are of later date than Edward 2d. or beginning of Edward 3d. nor earlier than King Stephen. It is uncertain whom they represent, probably the Berkeleys or Gournays.

In the west aisle next the pulpit is a curious monument with the statue of a lady kneeling, and on each side two men in clergymen's habits drawing aside a curtain, with the following inscription underneath: — "*Memoriæ sacrum hic sita sunt ossa ornatissimæ fæminæ, Domine Mariæ Dom. Edwardi Baynton, nuper de Bromham in comitatu Wiltoniæ relictæ, fæmina fuit ad antiquum morem composita, illibatæ vitæ, pietate, forma et omni laude maternali virtute muliebri ornata suam post quam vitam nimis eheu brevem nec a molestiis penitus liberam, piam, fidam, pudicam, castam, generosam hospitalitate caritate, aliisq; quam plurimis virtutibus excultam omnibus, etiam egenis, caram egisset; eam cum ingenti omnium utriusq; sexûs, quibus aut fama, aut facie nota fuit, luctu ac dolore reliquit, pro fæliciori commutavit, et Christo placide obdormivit ætatis suæ 44, Anno Domini MDC secundo. Sordes terra tenet, tenet ingens spiritus æthrâ æthereosque locos, hic restant ossa sepulta.*"

Huic

Huic ejus filii gemini dom. Robertus et dom. Nicolaus, quos suo utero conjugali peperit fructifero posuere monumentum. Arms f. a bend lozengè argent.

In the same aisle is an handsome monument with a shield of the arms of Berkeley of Stoke-Gifford at top, and in the table the following epitaph, over a statue in armour at full length — “ Domini Richardi Berklæi militis in suam mortem carmen monitorium :

Cum genus et nomen cupiant cognoscere cuncti,

Mentem nemo : si quis, qui sum, inquirere pergat,

Nescio, responde, hunc verum se nosse moneto.

Whom youth could not corrupt, nor change of days

Add any thing but years : he full of them

As they of knowledge ; what need this stone praise

Whose epitaph is writ in th' hearts of men :

That did this world and her child fame despise,

His soul with God, lo here his coffin lies.

Obiit Aprilis 26, A. D. 1604. Ætatis suæ 71.”

In the chancel is a large finely ornamented and carved tomb and on it within an arch the stone figures of Sir Thomas de Berkeley and Catherine his lady, daughter of John Lord Bottetourte. Sir Thomas died 35th Edward 3d. 1361. There are two shields over them ; one has the Berkeley arms of Stoke quartered with Bottetourte, which are or. a cross engrailed sable ; the other shield is paly of six or, and azure for Gourney.

Next this is another arched tomb for Miles Salley, abbot of Einsham, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff : he died in 1516. His stone figure with mitre and crozier is on the tomb.

Against the wall above is the following on a monument : — “ Here lieth the body of Elizabeth James, late wife of Francis James, Doctor of the Civil Law ; a woman for her excellent virtues and singular wisdom to be equalled by few of her sex. As she lived very religiously and godly, so she died May 1, 1599. Charissimæ conjugii posuit superstes maritus.” Dr. James lies buried at Barrow-Minchin-church, in the county of Somerset. Vide Wood's Athenæ Oxon. vol. i. p. 759.

Under this is a very grand carved freestone Gothic arched tomb and monument with the figure of a man in an alderman's gown, with a son behind him, with the following epitaph on a table : — “ Thomas Aldworth obiit Februarii 25, anno 1598.

Bristolæ

Bristolæ quondam qui mercatoris in urbe

Munere functus eras, bis quoque prætor eras,

Hæc cineris Aldworthi tuos tenet urna, sed omnis

Virtutis meritis arctior urna tuis, &c."

Under the stone figures is the following inscription: — "Hic jacet Johannes Aldworth, civis, mercator, hujus civitatis vicecomes hujusque orphanotrophii quondam thesaurarius qui obiit 18 Decembris, 1615, ætatis suæ 51, et Franciscus filius ejus optimæ spei juvenis qui 5 Septem. 1623 obiit, ætatis suæ 24. Terram cum cælo commutavit, placidè in Domino requiens.

En pater et natus tumulo conduntur eodem

Ille rei multæ, sic fuit ille spei:

Ille probus prudens, pietatis cultor et æqui,

Qui norit lector, crederet, iste foret.

Ille viæ medium cum vicerit, iste sed oram,

Cum Christo regnant suaviter in patriâ."

Above is a stone with an epitaph to Catherine, the wife of Hopkins Vaughan, of Caldicot, who died 6th May, 1694. Also to George Vaughan, Esq; his son: he died 16th Sept. 1701, aged 38.

Another monument is here to Thomas James, mayor, and parliament man for this city, &c.: he died 1615. Also Thomas James, Barrister at Law, his grandson: died in 1685. Also Alexander James, of Tydenham: he died 1713.

In the chancel is a very superb monument for William Birde thus: — "Gulielmus Birde obiit Octobris 8, A. D. 1590.

Clarus, prædives, sapiens et pro grege Christi

Sollicitus, sedem et victum cultumque ministrans

Dormit in hoc tumulo, sed spiritus æthera scandit:

Vix dedit hisce virum Bristolliæ nostra diebus

Consimilem, seu virtutem, seu cætera spectes.

Gratus erat patriæ civis, jucundus amicis

Progeniemque suam multâ cum laude reliquit."

The sword of magistracy lies on his tomb.

On a stone here is the following: — "Here lieth the body of Robert Gorges, who departed this transitory life March 1, 1619. Also Sir Robert Gorges, Knight, and Elena his wife, who died 5th November, 1617." This is of the family of Gorges of Wraxal near Bristol, where they had a seat and park. They bore anciently for arms, a whirlpool, in allusion to the name, afterwards

afterwards checky or. and azure. The present Lady Dowager Bampfylde is the last of this family, whose son Sir Charles Bampfylde possesses the manor of Wraxal, and there resides in 1788. Ralph de Gorges by Edward 1st. was summoned to parliament, and was at the siege of Karlaverock castle in Scotland, of whom one says, "There saw I Sir Ralph de Gorges, a new dubbed knight, more than once beaten down to the earth with stones, but he was of so great a spirit as not easily to desist; all his harness and attire was masked with gold and azure." Many of the Gorges family lie buried in the church of Wraxal: Sir Thomas Gorges is buried at Salisbury cathedral, with a long inscription on a very large and handsome monument.

On a table against the wall above Aldworth's monument is the following:
 "To the pious memory of Thomas Moore and Elizabeth his wife, buried in the same grave near this place.

Envyng their loves Death them divorc'd in spight,
 But now in kindness doth them reunite:
 She sick'ning stole from him with ling'ring pace
 He hither came longing her to embrace:
 So crosses, accidents, the self same fate
 Rob man of blifs and make him fortunate.
 Their virtues were admir'd, their hearts were one,
 One faith they held, one pure religion:
 Living belov'd by all, so dead they have
 A general sorrow and a single grave;
 Where let them rest in peace, till both shall rise
 With bodies glorified above the skies.

She departed this life June 7, A. D. 1673. He September 16, 1675.

As the church (which with the monuments and inscriptions has now been fully described) was formerly called the Gaunts church, so the old hospital thereto belonging went by the name of Gaunts of Billeswick according to Dr. Tanner's account, because "Maurice de Gaunt * built this hospital in Billeswick manar, in the north-west suburb of the town of Bristol, near the monastery of St. Augustin, before A. D. 1229, † for one chaplain and one hundred poor people to be relieved every day. For which use he gave the manor of Paulet and several

* Leland, Itin. vol. vii. p. 73, ascribes the foundation of this house to Sir Henry de Gaunt, and saith it was intended for a college of priests, &c. But Maurice's charter is extant in the registers at Wells.

† Anselm Bishop elect of St. David's is one of the witnesses to Robert de Gourney's confirmation of his uncle's charter, and A. D. 1229 was the year of his election.

several mills, &c. to the canons of St. Augustin, and seems to have made his hospital entirely subject to their management and direction. But after his decease Robert de Gourney his nephew and heir made it a distinct house for the maintenance of a master * and three chaplains, and the relief of one hundred poor people every day." It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Mark,† and valued 26th Henry 8th. at 112l. 9s. 9d. per annum, Dugd. 140l. as Speed. ‡ Leland, Collect. vol. i. p. 83, says 140l. and calls it "hospitale seu prioratus St. Marci evangelistæ de Belliswike alias Gauntes."

Vide in Monf. Angl. tom. ii. p. 455. cartam Roberti de Gourney, pro maner. de Poulet, molendinis de Were et Radewick, &c. ad sustentationem, &c.

See in Monasticon Anglicanum, vol. ii. p. 455. the deed of Robert de Gourney of the manor of Poulet and the mills of Were and Redwicke, &c. and the provision for keeping them in repair, &c.

Dr. Archer's Account of Religious Houses, &c. p. 606.

In Prinn's Records, vol. iii. p. 123. ex bund. certif.

50 Henry 3d. 1266, de ecclesia de Kantokesheved (dioc. Bath.) Ibid, p. 856. prohibitionem archiepisco. Cantuar. quia tenuit placitum de ad advocacione hujus domus, 28 Edw. 1. 1300.

The 50th of Hen. 3d. concerning the church of Kantokshead (in the diocese of Bath). The same, p. 856. the prohibition of the Archbishop of Canterbury, because he held pleas concerning the jurisdiction of this house, the 28th Edward 1st. 1300.

In Raftall's Entries, p. 463. b. sub titulo, quare impedit de hospital. plac. dom. Mauricii Berkeley, mil. de magistro eligendo. Years book, 7 Edw. 3. Hill S. 17. 12 Henry 4. Micha. 13.

In Raftall's Entries, p. 463. b. under the title of quare impedit of the hospital. The pleas of the house of Sir Maurice de Berkeley, Knight, concerning chusing a master.

In Willis's History of Abbies, vol. ii. p. 85. et Append. p. 9.

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* The governor of this house is sometimes called prior, and the house itself a priory of the order of St. Austin, as Leland, Collect. vol. i. p. 85.

† Not St. Martyn, as Prynne, vol. iii. p. 123.

‡ Leland, vol. v. p. 74. saith it had 300 marks by the year. Page 53. he calls the Gaunts of Bristol the Bonnes Hommes (or good men), an order of friers brought into England by Edmund Earl of Cornwall, A. D. 1283, others say 1290, placed at Ashrugg.

In registro penes rev. W. decan. et capit Wellenf. Mauriti de Gaunt fundatoris cartam.

In registro Joannis Drokensford episc. Bathon. et Wellenf. ordinationes Vicariorum de Stokland (A. D. 1317) et Overstowey, A. D. 1327.

Cart. 31 Hen. 3. m. 4. pro lib. war. in Paulet et Stokeland. Pat. 4. Edw. i. m. 9. Plac. apud Wilton. 9 Edw. 1. affis. rot. 3. de maner. de Winterborn Gunnore: Cart. 18 Edw. 1. n. 69. pro eod. maner. a rege concessio. Rec. in scacc. 20 Edw. 1. rot. 8. de Ancelino de Gurney olim advocato. Cart. 6 Edw. 2. n. 7. pro maner. de Paulet, Stockland, etc. Pat. 8 Edw. 2. p. 1. m. 3. de terris et pasturis in Compton excambiatis cum episc. Bathon. et Wellenf. ibid. m. 4. pro eccl. de Stokland approprianda: Pat. 20 Edw. 2. m. Pat. 16 Rich. 2. p. 1. m. 4. de maner. de Winterborn Gunnore et Winterborn Cherburgh. Pat. 6 Hen. 4. p. 2. m. 23. pro Villis de Paulet et Buro: Claus. 7 Hen. 4. p. 1. m. 11. Escaet. 7 Hen. 4. n. 23. Pat. 4 Hen. 5. m. 26. de commun. pastur. in Southamme et Northamme. Rec. in scacc. 14 Hen. 6. Mich. rot. 9. de maner. de Paulet et clauso vocat. Gautesham.

In Itin. Will. Worc. p. 188. dimensiones Ecclesiæ. Lel. Coll. v. 1. 85. Itin. v. 5. 64. vol. 7. 88. 92.—In Atkyns Gloc. p. 214 of the manour of Gaunt's Urcot.

The 13th of King John, Maurice de Gaunt on an inquisition for knight services for each county, was rated for Dorset 1 milit. & dimid.

Leland, in Itin. v. 6. f. 100. says, "Maurice de Gaunte was Lorde of Beverstane Castle by Tetbyrie:" and opposite has this note, "Loke wither Mauric wher not first caullyd Barkely & then *Gaunte* a loco tantum natalium." And v. 8. f. 67. a, he says, "Baronia de Gaunt partita inter Rogerum de Kerdeston, & Julianam de Gaunt & petrum de Marley hæredes Gilberti de Gaunt—patet recorda de Anno 19 Edw. 1.—Collect. v. 3. p. 32. 1144 Gilbertus de Gaunt monasterium de Bridlington Castrum fecit sibi.

Gilbert de Gaunt accompanied his uncle William Duke of Normandy into England, who having vanquished Harold divided his enemies lands among his Norman friends and followers of his fortune; amongst whom he particularly favored his nephew, and gave him ample possessions and created him Earl of Lincoln, which the posterity of Gilbert de Gaunt enjoyed for five generations, till the male line failed in 1306. It appears in Doomsday (in iisd: Comit:) what exorbitant grants he made him, for in 10, 11, 12 and 13 year of his reign this Gilbert de Gaunt alone was seized of one lordship in Berkshire, two in Oxfordshire, three in Yorkshire, six in Cambridgeshire, one in Huntingdonshire, five in Northamptonshire, one in Rutlandshire, one in Warwickshire,

shire, eighteen in Nottinghamshire, and one hundred and thirteen in Lincolnshire, being 154, which was a large estate indeed for so short a time. He married Alice daughter of Hugh de Montfort, a great baron of those days, and had two sons and one daughter by her; Walter the eldest succeeded his father in the title and honour of the earldom of Lincoln about the year 1096, and was buried at Bardney abby. The chief seat was at Folkingham in Lincolnshire. Robert the second son married Alice daughter of William Paganel who founded the priory of Drax in Yorkshire, and by her had two daughters only; Juliana married to Geoffrey Luttrell, and Alicia married Robert the second son of Robert firnamed Fitzharding, because the son of Harding a younger son of the King of the Danes. This Robert had by Alice de Gaunt his wife a son named Mauritius, and a daughter named Emma; Maurice took upon him the surname of de Gaunt, looking on that as the most noble; and Emma his sister married Anselm de Gourney, younger son of Hugh de Gourney, a Norman made Earl of Gourney by William Rufus; he bore pally of six pieces or. and azure, (the arms are in painted glass in the window of St. Mark's church,) he had issue Robert de Gourney. Afterwards Maurice de Gaunt dying the 14th of Henry the 3d. without issue; the 15th of Henry the 3d. this Robert de Gourney as heir to his uncle Maurice de Gaunt did his homage and had livery of the manor of Poulet in the county of Somerset, and of his uncle's manors of Beverston, Weston, Radwick, Over, and Aylburton; and made a solemn declaration in the King's presence that he did not lay any claim to the three hundreds of Bedminster, Harecliffe, and Portbury in the county of Somerset, acknowledging that his uncle Maurice de Gaunt was only tenant for life of those hundreds, and after his decease without issue male they were to go to Thomas de Berkely by virtue of an entail.

It may be observed here, that though the family of the Berkelys are descended from the ancient barons of Berkely before the conquest, and since the conquest by Robert Fitzharding the founder of St. Augustin's monastery juxta Bristol, from the ancient kings of Denmark; and by Alicia one of the daughters and heirs of Robert de Gaunt, from Baldwin Earl of Flanders; yet this Robert de Gourney was the right heir at law, and had the inheritable blood both of Harding and Baldwin preferable to the Berkelys; and entered and claimed all the inheritable lands of Maurice de Gaunt and had livery of them.

Robert de Gourney performed his homage in the same year for half a knight's fee descended to him by the death of Robert de Harptree his grandfather: he was descended from the famous Hugh de Gorney, so called from their castle

and feignory in Normandy, who came over with William the Conqueror, and his posterity were the most considerable barons in the kingdom until the end of the reign of Henry the 3d. and had great possessions, especially in Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, (besides his royalties of de Gournay and de Plessey in Normandy,) as also in Wilts and Dorset, which amounted in the whole to twenty-two knights fees and a half; an estate equal if not superior to the first peers in the kingdom:* and as his ancestors took their surnames from a place in Normandy, so this gave name to several places in the county of Somerset, as Harptree Gourney, Harington Gourney, Gourney Slade, Gourney Were or Nether Were, also Barrow Gourney, where he founded a place of nuns. This Robert de Gourney was the founder of the Gaunts Hospital in his ancient manor of Bellifwyck, (which with others came to him from Maurice de Gaunt his uncle afore-mentioned,) on the North side of the hilly ground on which St. Augustine's monastery was built; where Robert Fitzharding formerly had a house he lived in while he was building that monastery, which descended to Robert de Berkley his son, and from him to Maurice de Gaunt his heir, and from him it came to Robert our founder his nephew. — Leland v. 7. f. 70, mentions, "Hardyng and Robert his sunne havynge a fayre howse at Portchester and another yn Brystow towne, and that Sir Henry Gawnte was a knight sometyme dwellynge not farre from Brandon Hill by Brystow:" and f. 68, that "Gurney us'd to lie muche at Richemonte castle: it stondith in the roote of Mendipe Easte of Bristowe in the parochie of Este Harptree by the

* There are many things upon record of the family of *de Gournays*: — Hugh de Gourney had his lands seized by a precept to the Constable of Bristol Castle from the King for hunting in the King's chace (Kingwood) by Bristol for three days without licence, 7th of Henry the 3d. M. 9. 26th of Henry the 3d. Robert our founder gave 20 pounds, no small sum in those days, to be excused attending the King into Gascoyne: and the 41st of Henry the 3d. he had summons to be at Bristol with horse and arms to march against the Welch. — The 41st of Henry the 3d. in Dorset N. 6. and the 42d of Henry the 3d. he had a like summons to be at Chester. — Vid. Maddox Formul. Anglic Chart. 100. Hathewisia de Gurneio Lady of the fee, confirms a grant of land in Clive Ware made by Alexander de Badicumb, one of her vassals in the court of Barow, Somerset, which Robert de Gurney her father gave him for his service; this land is surrendered to the Lady with five fardels of land in Bacwell by a *branch of a tree*, and by the same seisin is given by her to the purchaser to hold of her in capite, he gives a gold ring for his recognisance, witness Thomas de Buritona (Boreton), Matthello de Gurney, Roger de Batvent, and seventeen others. This estate of Barrow is now in the possession of John Gore, Esq; whose family had great estates at Gelsdon in Hertfordshire, and were distinguished for their loyalty in Charles the 1st's. time: at Gelsdon church there is a handsome monument, with a long inscription of the antiquity of the family as coming out of Wiltshire, (Whitley near Devizes,) "*ex antiquo Goræorum stemmate in agro Wiltoniensi.*" — Francis James, doctor of the civil law, whose wife is buried in this church of Gaunts, lies buried at the church of Barrow, which was the oratory of the nuns there.

the parochie chirche of yt; there stondith yet a peece of the dongeon of it: — that there is another village by Est Harptree caullyd West Harptree Gurney — and there bee varietie of armes that Gurney gave in the glafs wyndowes and his cote armure: — Gurneys lands came to Newton* of Barres Courte: — Gurney was Lorde of Stoke Hameden, and there lieth buried yn a collegiate chapple by the ruyns of his castle: hee was chefe foundar of the howse of Gauntz, at Bristow, as some say — he was foundar of the priorie of nunes call'd Baron Gurnay in Somersetschyre — he was Lorde of Whitcombe and Richemonte Castle, by Mendeppe 3 miles from Welles, — it is now clene downe — it came after to Hampton, then to Cradock, alias Newton: — Gurney had the fourthe parte of the Lordshipe of Mendype." — At Stoke under Hambden Leland met with many antiquities of the Gurney family; v. 2. Itin. f. 54, "I sawe at Stoke in a bottom hard by the village very notable ruines of a great manor place or castelle, and yn this remaynith a very auncient castelle whereyn be divers tumbes of nobil men and wimen. — In the south west side of the chapelle be 5 images on tumbes, on hard joynid to another; 3 of menne harneshid and shildid and 2 of women: ther hath bene inscriptions on eche of them, but now so fore defacyd that they cannot bee redde: I saw a shelde or 2, al verrey of blew and white — ther be also in this part of the chapelle 2 tumbes without images — there is in the north side of the body of the chapelle a tumb in the waulle without image or writeing, and a tumb wyth a goodly image of a man in armes in the north syde of the quiere of the chapelle with a sheld as I remembre al verrey, and even afore the quier dore, but withoute it lyith a very grete flatte marble stone with an image in brasse flattely graven and this wryting yn French aboute it:

"Ici gist le noble & vailiant Chivaler Maheu de Gurney jadys feneschal de Landes, & capitain de Chastel Daques pource nostre Seigneur le roy en la Duchie de Guyene, que en sa vie fu a la bataille de Bueamarin, & alla apres a la siege D'Algezire sur la Sarazines, & auxi a les batailles de la Schluse, de Cressy, de Yngenessi, de Peysters, de Nazara, D'Ozrey, & a pluziers autres batailles, & asieges, en les ques il gagna noblement graund los, & honour per le space de ^{xx}_{iiii} & xvj anns & morust le xxvi jour de Septembre l'an nostre Seigneur Jesu Christ mccccvi, que de sâlme dieux eit mercy Amen." — There was besydes this grave another in the westende of the bodye of the chapelle having a grete flatte stone without inscription: — I markid in the window 3 sortes of armes, one al verrey blew and white, another with 3 stripes gules downright in the felde of gold, the 3 was cros lettes of gold manie intermixt in one yn a felde as I remembre gules: — There is a provost longyng to this collegiate chapelle now
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* Vid chap. 9. on the Cathedral. p. 306.

yn decay where sumtyme was gode servyce and now but a messe sayde a 3 times yn a week."

I make this long quotation from Leland to prove the greatness of this family of Gourney, who founded our hospital of Billeswyke, his seat and manor, which he the rather chose for its site, either by order of his uncle Maurice de Gaunt in his will, * and to perpetuate his name, he having died without issue; or because it stood nearly opposite to that noble monastery, dedicated to St. Augustin by Robert Fitzharding, grandfather to Maurice de Gaunt, and his own great grandfather. Here he laid the foundation, and lived to see it completely finished, with the elegant chapel before described, and a cloister within it, though built low after the manner of those religious houses, and endowed it with lands, &c. and appointed by a deed Henry de Gaunt master of the hospital, who also was a benefactor to it, as appears by the following list of benefactors. There is great reason to believe that he founded it at the desire and direction of Maurice de Gaunt his uncle, who might be willing to have his name preferred; and the charter seems to imply as much. It not only says, "when I am in full seisin and possession of my lands by descent from my uncle," (by an ouster de main) which shewed he did not intend to meddle with the profits of these lands, but likewise as if it were by direction from his uncle revokes all agreements made by him with the canons of St. Augustin about tythes of corn. The family of Gaunt being now extinct in the male line, we find none after Henry de Gaunt as a benefactor to it of that name, though many others gave large possessions to it afterwards, as will hereafter appear.

The original deeds relating to this house are so many that they fill a large book of a folio size close written with abbreviations, a copy of which authentic curious manuscript I have in my possession. I shall abstract from it those only that more immediately concern the endowment of this religious house of charity, and give any light into its ancient foundation and original institution. I shall quote this also under the title of Gaunt's Book, being a manuscript never seen by any of our writers of ecclesiastical history and antiquities, neither by Dugdale, Stevens, Leland, Tanner, nor Mr. Willis. There were several benefactors, who very liberally endowed it after its first foundation as appears by the following abstracts, in which (1.) the founders names, and their orders and regulations concerning this ancient hospital will be recited, (2.) its endowment with lands, houses, manors, &c. by successive benefactors, (3.) a list

* By a deed of composition, dated 1251, between the house of St. Augustin near Bristol and the house of St. Mark, "*ratione testamenti vel Doni Mauricii de Gaunt et elemosinæ ejusdem, super situ domus ejusdem et opere novo ibidem inchoato et collegio ididem habendo.*"—It appears it was Maurice's will.

list given of the masters of this house, their time of succession or resignation, &c. until its final dissolution; also an account of the present new hospital called Queen Elizabeth's which has been erected and endowed in its place.

The following is an abstract of the principal benefactors of the religious house and hospital of St. Mary and St. Mark, &c.

Maurice Berkeley de Gaunt, son of Robert, was the first principal founder of this house or hospital of the Gaunts by direction of his will, or beginning it just before his death. The 14th Henry 3d. 1230,* he died at Portsmouth without issue, leaving Emma his only sister his heiress. She married Anselm de Gourney, who descended from Hugh de Gourney, who came into England with William the Conqueror, by whom she had one only child, named Robert de Gourney. Maurice at his death gave by deed to the King Beverston Aylbyrton, and Weston, whence it is called Kingweston at this day.

Robert de Gourney,† the only heir and nephew to Maurice de Gaunt, by his deed ‡ gave or confirmed to the said house his manor of Paulet, &c. the mills of Were and Redwick, with all ponds, waters and water courses, fish and all improvements to the said mills, and four marks rent in Bristol, viz. out of the house of Robert the son of Harding which David la Warr possessed two marks, out of the house of Peter la Warr in Broad-street one mark, out of the house of Richard the cordwainer near the fishery one mark, and his house of Billefswick, for the support of three chaplains and the feeding of twenty-seven poor persons every day § with pottage; each person to have the weight of 45 s. in bread, made of wheat, barley, and bean flour. He reserved in the said deed a power to himself and his heirs of placing in a master of the said house as often as the mastership should become void by death or otherwise, (that is to say) at any time when such vacancy shall happen.

* In the register of Clerkenwell in Biblioth. Cotton. is a charter or grant of Maurice de Gaunt to the nuns of Clerkenwell in Middlesex of all rent he had in the manor of Dursley, to which deed Sacer de Quinci Earl of Winchester was a witness, who was earl in 1207.

In an inquisition, 13th King John, of knights service in each county, in the county of Somerset is "Mauritius de Gaunt 1 milit et dimid."

† Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, p. 475. he is said to give the manor of Gaunts Urcot, in the county of Gloucester to this house; which was sold to the city of Bristol for public uses the 33d Henry 8th. 1540. Vide p. 214.

‡ Now extant in Gaunts Book of Deeds manuscript, p. ii. and Dugdale's English Monasticon Anglicanum, p. 166. Ibid, vol. ii. p. 455.

§ His deed as above mentions only twenty-seven persons, though Dugdale says one hundred persons. Vide vol. ii. p. 455. — By one other deed he adds one more chaplain, in all four, and eight clerks; all which was confirmed before the Justices of Eyre at Iwelchester the 2d Feb. 1243. Those deeds are in Gaunts Book. p. 3, 4.

pen. The management of the lands and revenues of the house, together with the disposal of the alms belonging to the same, should remain under the direction of the chaplains for the time being; to whom he the said Robert granted a power to choose a master out of themselves or others, and to present such master to him and his heirs; when so done, the said Robert should present him so chosen, and approved of by him or his heirs, for admittance by the Bishop of Worcester, who may institute such master chosen to the almonary of the said house. And if at any time hereafter the said Robert or his heirs shall without reasonable cause oppose such master elected, then the Lord Bishop of Worcester may notwithstanding admit him on the presentation of the chaplains. And at any time hereafter upon the misbehaviour of the master, the bishop for the time being may remove him upon conviction thereof, and may admit another as above appointed. *

Accordingly the said Robert de Gourney by his deed † duly executed presents and approves of Henry de Gaunt (who calls himself clerk and brother of Maurice in his deed) for the mastership of the said house, which Sir Henry by his deed ‡ confirmed all former grants, and further granted the manors of Poulet, § Stockland, of Erdecote, and lands of Bruham, the mills of Were and of Langford, with all his right in Delyamour and Lynagan in Cornwall, of the donation of William Cannel, the burgage and rents in Bristol and the house of Bellifwick, || for the support of the master of this house, and twelve brothers clergymen

* This deed is in the Gaunts Book, p. 3.

† Ibid, p. 3. At the death of Robert de Gourney, which happened in the 53d year of King Henry 3d. 1269, he left by Hamisia de Longcamp his wife Anselm his son and heir, who also died the 14th Edward 1st. 1286, whose great estate descended to his son and heir John de Gourney, who also died the 19th Edward 1st. 1291, and left Elizabeth his only daughter and heiress, who married to John Ap Adam, who had issue Sir Thomas Ap Adam. He sold the manor of Kingsweston, which formerly belonged to Maurice de Gaunt, to Sir Maurice Berkeley the 4th Edward 3d. 1330, and at the same time sold off the manor of Beverston to Thomas Lord Berkeley, vide Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, p. 273, 274. and 475. The Ap Adam and Berkeleys were also benefactors to this house of the Gaunts.

‡ Gaunts Book, p. 1.

§ In this manor is a close of pasture three hundred acres called Gaunts' Ham, mentioned in an old deed as belonging to this hospital, and not to the King.

|| The mayor and corporation of Bristol are seized of another manor at Winterbourne, in the county of Gloucester, for the use of Gaunts hospital in Bristol. Sir Robert Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, p. 843. In a deed in Gaunts Book, p. 12. there the King's writ of enquiry is, whether he has a right to present to the mastership of St. Mark's, then vacant, on account of his manor of Wynterbourn Gunnor, which the brothers of St. Mark held of him in Soccage, 29th year of Edward the son of Henry 5th. But this is by Salisbury, in Wilts, and also belonged to this house.

gymen and five brothers laymen and twenty-seven poor people, out of which number twelve are to be scholars to serve only in the choir in black caps and surplices, as the same was ordained and confirmed formerly by Walter Lord Bishop of Worcester. This Henry is said in Leland, Itin. vol. 7. to be the brother of Maurice de Gaunt, and that he lies buried in the vesturye under a flat stone.

The following is an abstract of the said bishop's ordinance dated in 1259.

Walter Bishop of Worcester, with consent of Robert de Gourney and Henry de Gaunt, joint founders of the lands, rents, &c. by them given to the said house, viz. that the lands, &c. by them given should for ever remain to that house, for the support of a master and three chaplains, and that the alms to poor Christians agreeable to each of their deeds should every day be observed; and that twelve scholars be admitted or removed at the will of the master, who are to officiate in the choir in black caps and surplices, according to the direction of the chaunter, master, and faculty of the house, out of whom one is to be chosen to direct and instruct the rest, for which his stipend shall be larger than the rest; and it is ordained that three clerks in sacred orders and five lay friers do wear the same habit of those friers of the hospital of Lechlade,* differing only in the badge of the said hospital, which is a cross argent and the shield gules with three geese argent. And if it should happen that either of the said six clerks should by the said master be promoted to the sacerdotal order, nevertheless he may administer in the church according to the direction of the chaunter, provided the number of chaplains, clerks, and friers, so admitted by the said master not having the habit, exceed not thirteen, unless in process of time the revenues of the house increase, at which increase let as many be added to the charity as the master of the said house shall think fit. At the admittance of each person into the brotherhood he shall have the shield only fixed on his habit, which shall be worn during the year of probation, at the end of which time if he is found a fit proficient then the shield with the cross shall be fixed to the same; or within the time of his probation, if he desire or plead for this right, he may have the shield with the cross impressed on his upper habit, by vowing the substantials of the order, viz. continence, obedience, and abdication of property, and other regulations of the said house to be observed.

Any person after admission and within the time of probation, if he should be found not fit, may depart or be removed by the master. In fasting and other things to be observed by the members of this house, let it be accord-

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* Lechlade was a priory of black canons, or rather an hospital of a master or prior and certain poor and infirm brethren. Leland's Itin. vol. ii. p. 17.

ing to the custom of the friers of the hospital of Lechlade; but in divine offices according to the custom and order of Sarum. In burying the dead, whether prince or prelate be sent for burial, the said chaplains and clerks, are to wear the habit of the said hospital, or in their more solemn apparel, according to the custom of Sarum, may meet the same, provided the said habit is not used elsewhere, but in the choir, or elsewhere when free from ecclesiastical office.

As to mass and its solemnities the said chaplains and clerks are to observe the following rules, viz. one mass shall be celebrated in the morning for the Blessed Virgin Mary, the second for the dead, and the third for the day, this to be continued every day: the other chaplains may celebrate mass for the living and the dead, and chiefly for the benefactors of the house at the discretion of the master. Divine service being ended, two chaplains and the aforesaid six clerks wearing the badge of the house, with two lay-brothers each with a little knife in his hand shall cut the bread for the impotent and weak, who are to be served to their will between one and three, before the chaplains and clerks shall dine: that receiving their prescribed portion there, they may nevertheless get elsewhere what is necessary for them.

The master, chaplain, clerks, and the brethren bearing their habit may sleep in one house, and may eat and drink in the dining-room, but no secular person shall eat there or any where within the bounds of the hospital unless by special leave of the master, or detained there by sickness, when he must be refreshed in the infirmary. If any stranger shall make a visit to the master, he may be at liberty to dine in his chamber or elsewhere at his choice; but then he is to have one or two of the aforesaid chaplains at table with him. If the said master shall dine out of the refectory, or lie out of his bedchamber, or travel abroad whether within or out of the town of Bristol, one or two chaplains are to be with him, first appointing one of the chaplains or brethren of the order to officiate in his stead. No chaplain, clerk, or brother shall eat or drink out of his house in the same town unless in the presence of his bishop or patron, or in religious houses, nor without consent of the master or his vicerent, and then some of the brethren in their habit shall be with him, lest any of them should be seen wandering abroad alone in the town out of the precincts of the said house; and at table the master and chaplains shall use only black mantles and black cowls, but elsewhere they shall have the arms of the house outermost, a f. gules three geese passant arg. If on horseback or afoot within the town they shall wear black caps with the arms of the house worked thereon. The chaplains, clerks, and brethren shall eat good bread of good corn,

corn, and be served with good beer and good pottage, &c. at the direction of the master. They shall not purchase any wine for their own use, nor make feasting to the loss or detriment of the said poor.

At dinner and supper time, or at the entertainment of a legate, a lecture shall be spoken as usual at other religious houses, to be directed by the chaunter.

If any of the chaplains and clerks know how to write or account, at the command of the master he ought to write and note down those things which turn out for the use of the house. If any of the lay-brethren have been versed in any of the mechanick arts, he may follow it for the advantage of the house at the will of the master, whose business shall be assigned them by the master as well within as without the house, and the work committed to them be carefully attended to and not injured by their removal from the work. And in case that part of the land of Paulet belonging to the said house which lies near the sea, should at any time be flooded by the sea and destroy the produce of the land, notice thereof being given to the Bishop of Worcester and to the patron by the master of the house, and an inquisition taken of the truth thereof, in this case the allowance for the poor with all charges incident thereto shall be lessened until the loss be made good.

Finally the Bishop granted for himself and his successors that the house of St. Mark be quit and freed from procurations and visitation of the archdeacon of the place or his official, and from obedience to the archdeacon to be observed as far as relates to religious matters for ever. — And the house and said poor to receive visitation of the Bishop or his official according to law.

Walter by the grace of God Bishop of Worcester having seen this ordinance above, confirmed it by the pontifical authority, sealed with the said Bishop's seal, with the seal of the house of St. Mark, and that of Robert de Gourney patron, and of Henry de Gaunt master, in the year of grace 1259, on the morrow of the exaltation of the cross.

Leland is of opinion in his Itinerary, vol. 7. p. 73, that "this house of the Gaunts was intended for a college of priests, &c." which is confirmed by a deed dated 1251, *de situ domûs & novo opere & collegio ibidem habendo*; though it is usually called *Elemosynaria*: — He also observes that the governor of this house was sometimes called prior, and the house itself a priory of the order of St. Augustin, vol. 1. p. 85. and it is so called often in the Gaunts deeds. He also affirms the religious belonging to this house were called *Bonnes-homes*, or good-men. Vol. 5. p. 58. Sir Robert Atkyns

says, p. 534, that "Edmond Earl of Cornwall, son of Richard, who was brother to King Henry the 3d. was founder of the first monastery or college of the order of Bon-homes in England the 5th of Edw. 1st. 1277, and were distinguished by wearing a blue coat. (See Atkyns, p. 3. A. D. 1283, Kennet's Paroch. Antiq. p. 300. Leland, vol. 2. p. 332. but Rymer's Fœdera, vol. 1. p. 165, says, A. D. 1290.) Which was at Ashrug in Hertfordshire. There were but two other monasteries in England of this order; the Gaunts at Bristol, and Edington in Wiltshire, the last of which was founded by William de Edington of Winchester the 26th of Edw. 3d. 1352.

The following BENEFACTORS have occurred in making abstracts from the folio manuscript in Latin, called Gaunt's Book.

The manor of Paulet and its appurtenances were given by the aforesaid Robert de Gourney, as well as Were-Mill, Radwick, and the four marks of rent in Bristol; and of the gift of Andrew Loterel the manor of Stockland and its appurtenances, of the gift of Maurice de Gaunt that part of Stockland next the hundred of Canington, &c. were all confirmed to the master and brethren of the hospital of Billeswick by King Henry by his charter dated the 18th of November the 17th year of his reign 1233.

Edward the 1st. gave the manor of Winterbourn Gunnore in Wilts, before he was King in the 52d year of his father's reign, and confirmed it after he was King the 13th of May 1290.

Edward the 3d. confirmed all the aforesaid grants, and that which Alexander D'Aundo, or De Anno made to the said hospital of all that land and bosk (wood) called Halfbarrow, with its appurtenances, in the manor of Aychton, and that grant which Idonea Gaunfel the wife of Richard the Huntsman made of all that land and tenement which she had in Erdicote, and all the right she had in La Lee Hanedone, and Hogestone; and the land called Sturte in Gete and its appurtenances, with the advowsons of the chapels of Lee and Erdicote, and all rents, villenages, custodies, liberties, &c. and all right in the said land belonging to her or her heirs: he confirmed also the grant which Richard Curteis of Bristol made to the master and brethren of said hospital of his right to a meadow called Wambroke; and the grant which William Gannel made of a tenement which he had of John le Brun in de Lianour, and Linagon: dated the 1st of May in the 6th year of his reign 1333.

Several houses and gardens in Frogmere-street (now Frog-lane) were given to this hospital by Gilbert le Colere 1286, and Henry of Devon; Roger Gyngyure 1252, Reginald Bagge 1252, Roceline Tanner 1267, Ralph Morell,

Morell, Julian Kepe, Eglentine Bulerin 1252, Eve Kerdyff 1256, Elias of Stoke 1271, John Droys 1418.

Robert Guyen Burgefs of Bristol gave a garden called Billefwyk, and a tenement with two acres of land, in 1290, for which he got licence against the Mortmain statute of King Edward.

In 1326 the Bishop of Bath and Wells appropriated to this house the vicarage of Overflouwey, and in 1314 Stockland.

Jordan de Berkeley gave the houses opposite St. Austlin's the less and garden, which were Henry the Archdeacon's, the son of Robert Harding, to Henry Gaunt master, his heirs and successors to the house of St. Mark, paying two shillings yearly to the abbot of St. Austin, 1235.

Richard Palmer granted a gout through his garden next the land and curtilage of Henry de Gaunt down into the tide in the Frome, in the year 1235; and 1248 John Carpenter gave the ground next the gout.

Margery Palmer gave a tenement next the Back in the parish of St. Austin's the less in 1288: Edyth Whyttyngge gave another tenement with the ground next Henry de Gaunt's, 1267.

John Balle gave a croft under the hill of St. Brendan, which he held of the hospital of the brethren and sisters of St. John of Redclive, 1267; and Robert Cordar granted the croft next it on the said hill.

John, Cecily, and Nicholas Aylwarde granted a penny rent out of a house in Steep-street, a penny out of a house in Thomas-street, and a pound of cummin out of a house in Broadmead in the year 1252. Richard Aylwarde gave a tenement on Bromehill in the suburbs of Bristol, with a pigeon-house and three shillings rent in 1233.

Vincent Bardstaple gave ten shillings rent out of a house in Lewin's-mead next St. Bartholomew's hospital the 39th of Edward the 3d.

Alice de Mercer gave a house near the church of St. Nicholas without the wall and beneath it, the master and chaplains of St. Mark admitting her and her husband to partake of the benefits of said college every year on the day of their obiit 1256.

Thomas de Emyngton gave a messuage on Fromebridge, alias Knifesmyth-street, six shillings and eightpence rent assize out of a house in Baldwin-street and three shops in Temple-street, and three shillings rent out of a house there; and twelve shillings rent assize out of a house opposite the flesh shambles in Wells, 1248:—John master of St. Mark's quit-claimed the house in Baldwin-street, which extended backwards to the old wall of the town of Bristol, to John Trefour, he paying 2s. yearly rent for it, 1272.

Robert

Robert Cordar gave his right in a house in Redclift-street extending from the street forwards to the Lagdicke backwards, for a lamp to the house of St. Mark about the year 1271, Galfrid Long being then prepositor of Radclive.

Richard Curteys gave a house in the market (feria) of Bristol next a lane leading to the church of St. Philip and Jacob, 1267, and opposite the church-yard.

John Esterfield gave the master and brethren of St. Mark's the nomination of 8 poor men and 5 poor women to the alms-house on St. Michael's-hill-steps, and to appoint a priest there, to sing and pray, the 20th of Henry 7th.

Henry of Mudiford gave Maurice de Gaunt and his successors the land of Willemaris for 10 marks sterling.

Andrew Luttrell gave the manor of Stockland, the executors of said Maurice paying him 40 marks (the deed being witnessed by Robert de Gourney, Gilbert de Gaunt &c. about the year 1269) with the advowson of the church of Stockland-Gaunts worth about 10 marks by the year, but decreasing in value and being insufficient for the vicar to live upon it, it was endowed by Thomas Bishop of Bath and Wells with the consent of William master and the brothers of St. Mark's with lands, and tythes of hay, roses or reeds of the whole parish — of wool, milk, apples, flax, lambs, calves, chicken, pigs, pigeons, all oblations, tenths &c. belonging to the said church, except of swans, which were reserved by the house of St. Mark's who paid him also 28s. in money, 1453.

Margery Somery wife of Maurice de Gaunt granted tenths of the mill of Kantockesend, and pasture there for 6 oxen, 2 cows, and 2 heifers, in 1247.

Anselm de Gourney gave Thomas de Lechlade master and his brothers of St. Mark's 3s. rent out of 3 burgages in the town of Were, and all his right in Hyndmore in Compton and Ceddre, 10 Edw. 2d.

William Cannell gave his possession of Deliamour and Linagan, with all its appurtenances and rights in fishing, meadows, vineyards, messuages, mills, &c. &c. for 40s. 1233.

John Bruin gave his land in Brewham till the Gaunts were in full possession of Deliamour and Linagan, which was confirmed by Ric. de Muscegros.

John Bishop of Bath and Wells by leave of King Edward A. R. 20, gave the advowson of the church of Stowey apud Stoke-Coursey, worth 10 marks, dedicated to St. Peter and Paul, in exchange for 24 acres of moor, a mill, water-course in Compton, Cheddre and Nether Were, 1326.

Henry de Gaunt confirmed the grant of Erdicote, and gave all his rent which he bought of the abbot of Kaynsham next the church of the frier preachers in Bristol.

Richard

Richard Gaunfel confirmed the grant of his mother Idonea of all his claim in Erdicote village and its appurtenances, as well in Docham as Winterborne and Hambrook, and Lee and in Hogeston and Havedon and Sturte, in the village of Yate.

Anselm de Gourney confirmed all the grants of his father Robert, and gave 15s. rent, assise, the free chapel of Over, and granted that he would never trouble the master and brothers of St. Mark concerning the manor of Paulet and its appurtenances, mill of Were, and the rents in that town, or the rents in Bristol and possessions and houses at Billefwick, or other possessions belonging to them granted by his father, or the 15s. rent out of Lee, or tythes for the chapel of St. Swithin at Over or Lee, 1337.

Thomas Ap Adam quit claimed all his right in Lee, near Over, in the parish of Amandesbury, 1331.

Robert Scay granted and confirmed his lands in Rugh-Erdicot, 1279; and 1299 all his lands in Erik-street, and his claim in the common pasture of Ockholt, Thornes, and Stonely.

Robert Byleboste granted one virgat of land in Iron Aston, which he held of Osbert de Giffard, for his maintenance in food in the house of St. Mark, serving one of the priors there as a steward or head clerk of the said house, with allowance of 10s. yearly as long as he stays and serves there; or at his option to have six marks for the said land, instead of his food and the 10s.

Isabel Hildesley gave all her right and claim in a messuage, croft, and garden, and a virgat of land in Iron Aston. And Thomas the son of Maurice Lord of Berkeley released the yearly rent of 6s. issuing out of it to him.

Richard Drayton released an annual rent of a mark, which he used to receive out of a field called Wambrok, paid him by Richard Curtis, who gave the said field to the house of St. Mark, 1235. Wambrook lay towards the Barton of Bristol castle, alias King's Berton, near the field of the hospital of St. Laurence, next the parroche of the said leprous brothers, opposite Berehulle on the north side.

John Brues granted six acres of land in Coluwysauri in Ireland, in the county of Waterford

William Lord Botreaux Lord of Clifton allowed the plea of the house of St. Mark to common of pasture for one bull, six cows, and twenty-four sheep, at Clifton.

Ignatius of Clifton granted a messuage, curtilage, and fountain of water to be brought through his land whither they pleased, 1235.

Ralph

Ralph of Stourton, rector of Beverston, granted his land of Wytington, with all appurtenances for thirty-two marks of silver.

Peter Burgeis and his wife, on condition of a yearly gift of two marks of silver, and a house found them at Bristol as long as they or either of them should live, granted their land in Slymburrgg, Goffington, Hurst, and Rynge-ton; and Maurice de Berkeley granted a virgat of land in Slymbrugg, belonging to the Hamlet of Hurste, with a messuage, garden, and all his right in it, except the support of a lamp in the church of Slymbrugg.

Walter Allayn granted all the messuage with the mill at Langford, as did Richard de Portesheued, his heir.

Roger de Turba gave privilege of digging in the moor of Tykeham and mowing there, and gathering lescas et scirpos, rushes and reeds, and in those places where it was usual, 1280.

These were the principal grants of lands, &c. made to the house of St. Mark of Bellifwick; and are abstracts of the several deeds in the manuscript book in my possession, called *Thesaurus Chartarum et Munimentorum Domus St. Marci de Billefwyck*, except some law proceedings in relation to titles, confirmations of the same grants, appropriations of churches, ordinances of bishops, and agreements between disputing parties about particular rights and privileges in manors, &c. too prolix to be here inserted at length.

The grants were all made in this or the like form: "Omnibus matris ecclesiæ filiis, &c. sciant presentes et futuri, &c.; or noverit universitas, me H. G. divinæ pietatis intuitu et pro salute animæ meæ, &c. concessisse remisisse et quietum clamasse et hac presenti carta meâ confirmasse, Deo beatæ Mariæ et beato Marco et magistro eleomofynariæ St. Marci de Billefwyck juxta Bristol, et confratribus vel capellanis et clericis ibidem Deo servientibus, &c. et eorum successoribus ad eorum sustentationem et ad refectiorem ejusdem loci pauperum singulis diebus in perpetuam liberam, &c." — To all sons of the holy mother church, &c. know all men present and future, &c. that may see or hear this, I, H. G. from a view of piety, and for the health of my soul, my father's, the king's, &c. have granted, released, and quit claimed, and by this present deed confirmed to God, the blessed St. Mary and St. Mark, and to the master of the hospital of Billefwyck near Bristol, and to the co-brethren, chaplains, and clerks, there serving God and celebrating divine service for the faithful and their successors, for their own support and maintenance of the poor there for ever, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, &c.

In the year 1278 (reg. wyg.) Godfrey Bishop of Worcester visited the house of St. Mark, Bristol, and found among other things that this house was
founded

founded originally for the support of an hundred poor in certain eatables and drinkables for ever every day in the year, and that for four years before it had been, it was to be feared not without God's vengeance, damnably omitted, wherefore he ordered this alms to be given as at first appointed. He found also that it was unknown how the house is governed, as there were no receivers in the house nor stewards in the manors, &c. belonging to it, who had rendered any account of what had been received and delivered; wherefore he ordered receivers should be appointed to receive by tail all money arising from the said manors, corn, and other profits of the said house, and further administer by tail to the officers of the house for the use of the house; and the said receivers abroad and servants shall first before the master and three or four others of the said house render a faithful account once at least in the year, and the officers at home do the like, that so it may appear what and how much the said house can expend, and how far its goods, &c. will serve, and what remains in store and the like.

The like complaint of withdrawing the alms from the poor by the house was made at the visitation of the Bishop in May 1284. In 1312 the master, William Beauver, and Friars Robert de Redynge, John Yverney, W. de Cant, and J. Belet, were all at variance, accusing each other of great excesses and enormities to the bishop, and the master kept W. de Cant confined in prison for penance till the bishop ordered his release, and his being restored again to his place in the house.

Were it not these and such like irregularities that gave Henry 8th. pretext for dissolving the religious houses?

In 1346 John de Stokeland precentor was with great form elected master or custos of this house by compromise and agreement among the nine brothers which then made up the convent, who carried him so chosen to the conventual church from the chapter-house, and laid him down upon the high altar according to the usual form singing Te Deum aloud, he was then declared master and afterwards installed.

Notwithstanding the liberal grants and ample endowments of their house, I find them complaining to John Bishop of Bath and Wells of the insufficiency of their revenues and estates to their support, out of which they were obliged by custom and right from the first foundation of their house to relieve (reficere) an hundred poor * every day besides other almsgivings, and the re-

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lief

* The original grant was for 27 poor, which by a second founder seems afterwards to have been changed to 100, when the endowment was increased. Dugdale says, "an hundred poor," tho' the grant quoted by him mentions only 27.

lief of others coming thither for hospitality; and that they the said master and brethren without any fault of their's on account of the smallness of their income, and various expences daily increasing upon them, and also from the floods and overflowings of the sea, by which no small part of their lands there situated in his diocese were destroyed, had been so burdened with debts, that unless other provision was made, they should be obliged wretchedly to beg in future "*contra religionis honestatem*." On this representation the bishop, piously commiserating the necessities of their house, conferred on them the impropriation of the church of Stock, with its rights, possessions, and appurtenances, reserving only to himself and successors the appointment of a vicar for the said parish, to serve in the church to be presented to him by the house of St. Mark, and an annual pension of two shillings to be paid to the dean and chapter of St. Andrew, Wells, and one mark and an half to the archdeacon. This was granted in the year 1316, 10th kalends of November, and seventh year of the bishop's consecration. — But in the year 1326 they made the same complaint of poverty, and the bishop listening to it bestowed on them the church of Overstowey, with all its rights, fruits, &c. on their paying a pension of forty shillings to the dean and chapter of Wells, towards the repairing the fabrick of that church, reserving the sole appointment of the vicar to the church of Overstowey. Whether their necessities were real or feigned, this bishop seems to have greatly favoured these brethren of St. Mark's house; and if we consider how desirous the religious houses or regulars were then of appropriating church livings, and what pretences they set up of greater charity, sanctity, and more religious offices, observed among them, and urged in their loud complaints to the bishop, (*orig. "gravis eorum querela auribus nostris insonuit"*) it is no wonder the bishops were often deceived by them, and the secular labouring parish clergy thus deprived of lawful support from the rectorial tythes, through the canting misrepresentation and hypocrisy of these religious. By this we may see the means made use of by the religious, as they were called of those days, to advance themselves and their houses. They deceived the people by an outward stricter discipline and superstitious display of religion, miracles of their saints, and by pretended claims to inspiration, and by the greater purity of the lives of their monks, nuns, and friars, which impressed the minds not only of the laity, but of some bishops in their favour; whilst the secular clergy of their respective parishes grew hereby into less esteem, and had the valuable part of their livings taken from them without a cause, through the weakness and lenity of the bishops listening to these false claims, who changed the
rectories

rectories to benefit the monks into vicarages, by appropriations; a loss felt by the parochial clergy to this day, many thereby being reduced to great straits now for a moderate maintenance by their livings, the lords of manors whose ancestors purchased the abby lands and therewith the rectorial tythes, enjoying the clergy's right, and the patrimony of the church. May we not see here the bad effects of listening to the false pretensions of religious zeal, and the claims of superstition; how the vulgar are again deceived by this outward shew of stricter lives and a stricter religion; the true religion deformed instead of reformed in its doctrines, the clergy treated with disrespect if not contempt, their tythes however small disputed or withheld, and every leader of a new sect (like the regulars, monks, or friers of the several orders of old) preferred before them, to the neglect and perversion of the true established Christian doctrine and substitution of some strange, false opinions in its stead. But to return from this digression. These churches of Stockland and Overstowey were very richly endowed, especially by Hugh de Bonville, who granted to God and St. Peter the apostle of Overstowey all its possessions in oxen, cows, sheep, swine, goats, free from all herbage and pannage and all secular service and gave liberty when and where they pleased for hufbote, heybote, and virbote, and for all other business they had need of or desired, which liberty he had for some years hindered against the health of his soul, but returning to his mind and asking pardon for his fault, he restored the honour and privilege of the said churches; (we may in vain expect the lords of manors, the present possessors of tythes, to follow his example in this) he gave also all his wood, land, and meadow of Stowey-Harpet near the old castle, and several more acres of land on the east side of the castle, and a meadow near the fountain of St. Peter, and seven acres on the west side of of the castle, and ten in Lamcrofte. He afterwards gave this church of Overstowey* to the church of St. Andrew of Stock, and the monks there serving God free from all service, &c. only when God should inspire him to be willing to take to a stricter life, they should receive him as a brother or monk, &c. By letters patent from King Edward, A. R. 20, John Bishop of Bath and Wells granted these churches wholly to the master and friers of St. Marks, for their better support.

Such have been the benefactors of this hospital, and such the lands with which it has been endowed, which at the dissolution being purchased by the corporation

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ration

* In 1625 there was a great dispute between one Selleck, farmer of this rectory of Overstowey, and the vicar, Mr. Arundel, a painful and honest minister, who was denied his right; and Arthur Bishop of Bath and Wells tried to compromise the matter, and wrote to the dean to apply to the corporation of Bristol in favour of the vicar, that he might have some part of the corn ground as well as the lesser tythes, as of old custom he had beyond the memory of man.

ration has added many fine estates to the chamber of Bristol, in trust for public uses and common profit of the citizens. I proceed next to give a list of the masters of this religious house of Gaunts, otherwise St. Mark of Bellifwick.

The first founders were Maurice de Gaunt and Robert de Gourney his nephew; the first appointed Henry de Gaunt first master, which was confirmed by his nephew.

PATRONS.

Robert de Gourney. Henry de Gaunt continued to 1268, and then resigned the year before his death through weakness of body, and was succeeded by

Gilbert de Watham, who was precentor of the convent.

Thomas de Lechlade succeeded about 1274, and governed to 1285.

Almaricus French succeeded in the reign of Edw. 1st.

Robert de Redynge in 1286, resigned 1299.

William Bevere, alias Beaover 1312, and resigned.

Lord Tho. ap Adam. Ralph de Tetbury 1334, 4 Maij to 1344, deprived.

Maurice de Berkeley, Richard de Yate 1344 to 1346.

ad nominationem John Stockeland 1346.

conventus.

The Convent. Walter Brunynge Oct. 12, 1360 (Regif. Wygorn.)

Thomas de Over 28 July 1370

Wm. Lane canon of St. Austen 1391

John St. Paul occurs in 1410

Nicholas Sterne died 1437

John Hall succeeded 1437

John Moulton resigned 1442

The Bishop by way William Wyne elected 1442 5 Feb. (Regif. Wyg.)

of compromise with William Prowe - 1467

the convent. John Mede died - 1494

Richard Collins succeeded 1494

Thomas Tylar died - 1515

Richard Bromfield occurs 1527

J. Coleman succeeded & resign'd 1534

In the 26th year of King Henry the 8th. A. D. 1534, this house or college of Gaunts was resigned by John Coleman the master and his brethren to commissioners appointed, for the said King's use, in form as followeth:—

“ Know all men by these presents &c. that wee John the master or prior of the

the hospital of the Gaunts, and the brethren of the same in the diocese of Worcester with one consent (uno ore & voce) &c. have subscribed our names, dated in our chapter house the 11th day of the month of September 1534. — John Coleman master, John Helice, Richard Fitchett, Robert Benet, Thomas Pynchyn his brethren. Given under our common seal with two labils of parchment sealed with red wax.”

Thus was this rich house with all its lands and possessions, plate and ornaments resigned into the King's hands; its value was then computed at 112l. 9s. 9d. per ann. as Dugdale reckons; 140l. as Speed, a manuscript penes me, makes it 184l. 9s. and 420 ounces of plate came to the King's hands. Leland says, * “ It hath 300 marks of land by the year.”

It was granted the 33d of Henry the 8th. 1540, from the crown to the mayor, burgeses and commonalty of Bristol for public uses, who are now in the place of the master and cobrethren of this hospital of St. Mark, and are possessed now of the church, the site of the hospital, the houses in Billefwyk belonging to it, the orchard ground now called Orchard-street &c. and other lands and estates with which the house was originally endowed.

At the dissolution the manor of Paulet and vicarage of Over Stowey were granted by the crown to the family of the Volgraves and Dorington in the county of Somerset; and the site of the hospital with the tenements adjoining and houses thereto belonging in Bristol, and the manor of Stockland-Gaunts, and the advowson and vicarage of Stockland in the county of Somerset to the city of Bristol; but for the further evidence of the disposal of the lands and goods belonging to this house here is annexed an abstract of the inquisitions taken of all that belonged to this convent the 31st of Henry the 8th. as they remain on record in the Exchequer.

“ Billifwyke, otherwise called the Gaunts nigh Bristol late a religious house surrendered to the use of the Kings Majestie and of his heires for ever by deed thereof made bearyng date under the convent seale of the same late monastery the 1xth day of December 31 year of the reigne of the most dreade Sovereigne Lord King Henry the Eighth and the same day and year clearly dissolved and suppressed.

The clere yearly value of all the possessions belonging to the said late religious house, as well spiritual as temporal, over and besides xixl. vis. viiij. in fees and annuities granted to diverse persons by convent seale of the same late monastery for term of life,

	l.	s.	d.
	165	2	4
	Whereof		

* Itinerary v. 7. p. 85, 2d ed.

Whereof pencions assigned to the late religious dyspatched, viz.		l.	s.	d.
John Colman clerk, late master there by the year,	-	40	0	0
Richard Fletcher late steward of the householde there,	-	6	13	4
John Ellis clerk assigned to be curate of the parish of St. Marke, so longe as he should serve, if he refuse the same cure then to have but 6 l.	-	8	0	0
Thomas Pynthin clerke	-	6	0	0
		60	13	4

And so remayneth clere - - - 104 9 0

Records and evidences belonging to the said late house remaine in the Treasury under the custody of Edward Carne doctor of law, the keys whereof remaine in the custody of Richard Powlet Esq; receiver.

Church houses and buildings appoynted to remaine undefaced, viz.

The church there appointed for the parish church—as heretofore hath been used.

The lodgings called the masters lodginge with hall, bottery, pantry and kitchen—committed to the custody of the said Doctor Carne.

Deemed to be superfluous, devided into honest tenentaries with convenient rents reserved—to the use of the King.

Leads remaining to the use of the Kings Majesties, none but onlie upon the said church, which is the parish church abovesaid esteemed to vij foders—nil.

Bells remaining in the steeple there vi. whereof iij assigned to the parish and remain to the use of the Kings Majestie iij—poiz by est. m m lb. weight.

Jewels reserved to the use of the Kings Majestie—none.

Plate of silver reserved to the same use, viz.

Silver gilt	-	77 oz.
Silver parcel gilt	156	oz.
Silver white	180	oz.

Ornaments reserved—none. ——— 413 oz.

Summe of all the ornaments, goods and chattells lately belonging to the said late house, sold by the said commissioners as particularly appeareth in the booke of sale thereof made ready to be shewn,		l.	s.	d.
		33	5	5

Whereof payments to the late religious and servants dispatched, viz.—To iij religious persons late priests of the said late house of the Kings Majesties reward,		l.	s.	d.
		6	0	0

To xvi men and children servants and queristors of the said late house for their wages and liveries,		l.	s.	d.
		10	9	4
		Of		

Of debts owynge by the said late house,—To diverse persons for victuals had of them to the use of the said monastery with xiiijl.

payd to the late master, therefore the payment and dyscharge of all	l.	s.	d.
the residue of the debts by the said late house by covenante	13	0	0

And so remaynith clere	-	-	2	16	1
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Debts owynge to the said late house by the same — none.

Patronage of churches belonging to the said late monastery.—Com. Somerset, vicaridge of Stockland-Gaunts by the year—vicaridge of Overstowey com. Somerset."

Certainly this was a rich hospital when so much was found and accounted for to the crown four years after it was dissolved, when they made it their business to secure their estates by gifts and private grants, after flourishing from about the year 1230 to the fatal time of the dissolution above 300 years; and being surrendered to the King in 1540, three years after being vested in the crown by act of parliament. And though they dissolved the hospital and divested it of its revenues, yet the chapel still stands, 1788, as a monument of the unjust abuse of a noble charity by the religious, and application of its revenues since to other purposes, and as a memorial to preserve the memory of the pious founders and benefactors to all posterity.

The churches of Stockland Gaunts, now called Stockland Bristol and Overstowey, with lands thereto belonging, and other great estates at Overstowey and Stoke Courfey, and other lands elsewhere, recited in letters patent, 33d Henry 8th. were with lands of other religious houses then dissolved for 1000l. granted to the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, of which sum 528l. 10s. 8d. was risen by the contribution of the vestries of each parish and other private persons; the vestry of St. Nicholas gave 46l. 15s. 3d. towards it and took bond of the chamberlain to acquit and save them harmless against the King or any other person, and the other parishes did the same. The lands bought with the money so risen (the city alone being not able of their then public stock to make this valuable purchase of Henry 8th.) were all that house and site of the hospital or house of St. Mark de Billefswick, alias the Gaunts, &c. See the particulars, p. 133.

The corporation assisted by the vestries and private persons were enabled by the acquisition of these vast estates to employ them, as they had engaged to the citizens, to the public uses and advantage of the city; and immediately hereupon set about making the city gates free and quit for ever from all manner of toll or custom, demanded by the sheriffs for the time being; and the sheriffs were to receive out of the chamber 44l. per annum in lieu

lieu thereof: and the Key and the Back were thenceforth to be free for all provisions brought thither, as recorded in the great White Book of Bristol, folio 61, vide also annals for that year, 1540, and public proclamation was made concerning it. This was applying part of the income of these new acquired estates to such public uses, that it received the general united voice of public approbation and great rejoicings were made on the occasion, and their posterity reap the advantage of it to this day.

But nothing could be more piously designed, and indicate a nobler spirit of charity and humanity, than erecting and new founding another hospital on the very spot where these Bonnes Hommes or good men used formerly to dispense with such a bountiful hand relief to the necessitous and daily food to the hungry poor. This was actually begun by the munificence of John Carr, Esq; a worthy citizen, who by his will, dated April 10, 1586, gave his manor of Congersbury to the corporation of Bristol (after paying his debts and compounding with his brother and heir Edward Carr to the sum of 5000l.) towards erecting and founding an hospital for maintaining and educating poor orphans and children in effect according to the hospital of Christ Church in London. A royal charter was then obtained March 21, 1590, in the 32d year of Queen Elizabeth for this purpose, and this new hospital was established on the petition of the mayor, aldermen, and commonalty, by an act of parliament passed 1597, 39th of Elizabeth. * The great capital messuage or mansion house of the late old hospital (which with the cloisters was taken down) called St. Marks of Belliswyck or the Gaunts, then inhabited by Gabriel Bleek, Esq; and granted among other things to the corporation by Henry 8th. was fitly appropriated to this use for its healthy situation. And that "the governors of the said hospital might daily increase the number of the said poor orphans and children to be relieved and sustained there" (the very words of the act) the Queen granted them licence to purchase manors, lands, &c. and several other benefactors, whose names should be recorded with honour for promoting so much the welfare of the city, contributed large sums and annual rents for this laudable undertaking.

The corporation of Bristol gave several thousand pounds, which they might easily spare out of the large estates the chamber had acquired by the purchase of the old Gaunts hospital here of Henry 8th. and it must be ever esteemed a well-judged and truly commendable application of the public money; but their trouble and long care in procuring the first establishment of this hospital, as well as supporting it afterwards and still improving it, must not be forgot.

William

* A private act, vide Statutes at large, chap. iii.

William Carr, Esq; gave 17^l per annum; John Carr, Esq; his son, gave his manor of Congersbury; the Society of Merchant Venturers were benefactor; William Bird, Esq; mayor, gave 530^l.; Mr. Samuel Hartnell, 33^l. per annum; Mr. Robert Dowe, 100^l.; Mr. John Barker, 17^l. 16s. per annum; Mr. John Gollop, 81^l. per annum; in 1602, the Lady Mary Ramsey, 1000^l.; Anthony Standbank, 15^l. per annum; Mr. Thomas Farmer, 400^l.; Edward Colston, Esq; also gave 70^l. per annum, and 500^l. in the year 1702 towards rebuilding and enlarging the said hospital; he has always six boys therein, and has provided 10^l. to put each an apprentice out of an estate in Congersbury; the whole charge to him being about 1500^l. The coats of arms of these benefactors are painted in this church, with the sums given. Other benefactions were given by the parish vestries and private persons to a great amount to pay off the mortgage on Mr Carr's manor of Congersbury.

In 1703, the great and truly charitable Mr. Colston proposed to the magistrates to increase the hospital of Gaunts or Queen Elizabeth, by a farther endowment by himself for one hundred boys instead of forty-four, then maintained and taught there, if they would erect a fabric equal to so great a foundation and fit for their reception; but through the private opposition of some, a narrow, selfish, factious spirit of others, and the envy of not a few, the undertaking was spoiled; but his liberality was not withheld notwithstanding from the place, nor did his charity toward this his native city shine with less ardour in being disappointed in this open, generous intention of his to join his charity with that of the city: for restrained as it was in one place it broke out in another, and he then turned his thoughts towards erecting an house for one hundred boys on St. Augustin's-back — a noble nursery for youth, equal to a royal foundation! Of which hereafter in the chapter on St. Augustin's parish.

This hospital of Queen Elizabeth was opened for the reception of poor boys in 1589, and William Bird, then mayor, gave 500^l. in his life time, and a tax on lead and iron was laid for three years towards its support. 1596, J. White gave 10^l. 1598, John Aldworth, 50^l. Mrs. Ann Colston, 200^l. which with 200^l. out of the chamber and the 1000^l. of L. M. Ramsey purchased an estate at Winterbourn of 100^l. per annum. William Gibbs gave 10^l. in 1602 for repairs and a sermon in the hospital. 1685, Andrew Barker gave six houses and 100^l. to put out the boys apprentices. In 1702, the hospital began to be rebuilt in a large and more commodious manner. In the year 1716 the sum of 40s. used to be paid before that time for each

boy's admission to the governor thereof for the time being was laid aside, and the boys since admitted gratis.

In 1659 before the hospital was rebuilt, when only twenty-eight boys were maintained there, the number was increased by an order of council to forty, and the master's (Mr. Sneed's) salary from 7l. 16s. per annum, was augmented to 16l. per annum, during the pleasure of the house, and it was ordered he should not presume to be absent above three days together in a year without leave of the mayor; and the following rules of admission were agreed on:

1. That no boy be admitted that hath any loathsome or infectious disease, or any deformity or imperfection that may prevent his being placed out as an apprentice.
2. No boy to be admitted unless his petition be signed by the mayor and four aldermen and the treasurer, importing his age, name, parish, and the time of his admittance, to be recorded by the master.
3. That a certificate be given of the boy's age under the hands of the minister and churchwardens of his parish, that he is ten years old and not under.
4. That no boy be chosen, whose father hath not been a free burghers of Bristol, or a poor boy of Congersbury, of which parish there shall be always one, son of one of the city tenants there.
5. No boy to be continued past the age of sixteen; if not placed out then to be returned to his parents or friends, or overseers of the parish.
6. The master is not to teach or entertain any tablers without leave of the mayor, four aldermen, and the treasurer.
7. The boys to be instructed in reading, writing, and casting accounts, and rendered capable of being apprenticed out.
8. That upon the boy's admission forty shillings be paid to the treasurer, and the boy furnished with one suit of apparel, two shirts, two bands, two pair of stockings and shoes.

This last rule was dispensed with by order, 1716, and the master has now 10l. a year allowed him for maintaining, cloathing, and instructing each boy, from the corporation, under their direction and visitation.

Thus have we seen this house of St. Mark or Gaunts erected and so liberally endowed, perpetually to remain dissolved, notwithstanding the care of the founders to secure it by royal charters, &c. It was next changed into a school and orphan-house for poor boys, natives of Bristol and of Congersbury, under the name of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, who granted her charter

charter of foundation, appointing the corporation of the city governors and a body corporate for establishing and promoting the said hospital, which was farther confirmed by act of parliament the 39th year of her reign, 1597. But see the instability of human ordinances, notwithstanding this charter of the Queen and an act of parliament, this house has again suffered another change, being in (1783) converted into a public Grammar-school for the citizens sons to resort to for education, first founded in another place less convenient in Christmas-street by Mr. Thorn, formerly the Bartholomew hospital or priory, and the orphan or poor city boys were sent to occupy the said ancient school at St. Bartholomew's, henceforth to remain and be called Queen Elizabeth's Hospital in the place of the other.

The exchange of the houses thus made, it was afterwards thought proper to get it confirmed by act of parliament, which was accordingly done. But though the places or sites of these respective foundations were changed, the endowments of each remain the same and distinct as at first, and are likely so to continue, unless another revolution or change should be projected and take place.

The corporation have been so provident, and the estates the Orphan-school was endowed with have been so carefully managed and the revenues so improved, that the boys may now be increased and one hundred well and sufficiently supported therein, as recommended by Queen Elizabeth's charter; but forty-four alone are maintained here, and the addition not yet made.

C H A P. XI.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. JAMES and PRIORY.

THIS church and the priory to which it belonged were built in the north suburb of the city. Leland says in his Itinerary concerning the priory, (vol. vii. p. 85. 2d edit.) " it stondith by Broadmeade by northe from the " castle on a hilly ground, and the ruines of it stondithe harde buttyng to " the est ende of the parish church of that name."

It was founded by Robert Rufus, natural son of King Henry 1st. by Nesta daughter of Rhees ap Tudor after the death of Robert Fitzhamon, who had

enjoyed the whole honour of Gloucestershire, and died in the year 1107, and is buried on the north side of the choir at Tewksbury, in his epitaph called "*hujus loci fundator*," leaving issue only four daughters, to the eldest of whom Mabilia the King married his son Robert, and with her gave him the entire honour belonging to her father, and in 1109 created him first consul, Earl of Gloucester, and Lord of Bristol.* He was the most valiant military genius and warrior of that age. He bore the following arms: G. three rests or. (see the plate) and they were so depicted in Tewksbury abbey. He built this priory † and a chapel here on his domains, dedicating it to the honour of God, the blessed Mary, and St. James the apostle, and having placed therein black monks of the Benedictine order, he endowed it with lands, liberties, and possessions, and enriched it with ornaments, &c. and constituted it a priory, member, or cell to the monastery of Tewksbury, and subject thereto in all respects as the priory of Cranbourne. This illustrious Earl died at Gloucester of a fever the 31st of October, the 12th of King Stephen, 1147, and was buried in the middle of the choir of the priory chapel, now the parish church of St. James, in a sepulchre of grey marble, (or green jasper, Dugdale) set upon six pillars of a small height. In his tomb was found (many years after) a writing of parchment concerning him and the time of his death: Leland says, vol. vii. p. 85. "a brewer in Brightstowe had this wryting."

His only son William succeeded to his father's honours and estates, and became a great benefactor to this priory and the monastery of Tewksbury, as appears by King Henry's deed of confirmation about the year 1181, viz. he gave all his freehold in Esselegia (Ashly) and right to the fair held at Whitsuntide in Bristol, and the tenth penny of his mills in Newport in Wales, Runne, Stapleton, and Leovenath, and his burgage rents ‡ out of Newport-meadow, which he ordered should be within this parish (now Broadmead) situated between the castle and the church of St. James in Bristol; and all the churches that were the fee of the said earl, with a messuage of one Allen's in or near the shambles of Bristol. § He died in the castle of Bristol in 1183, and was conveyed away and buried in his abbey of Keynsham, which he had founded

* Vide chapter on the castle, p. 209. Sir Robert Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 714, 728.

† Leland, Collect. vol. i. p. 217. says, "*cella St. Jacobi de Bristow pertinet ad Tewksbyri: Robertus consul Gloc. primus fundator prioratus St. Jacobi.*"

‡ To the monastery of Tewksbury he gave "*decimam de exitibus Bristolæ*, called also *decimam census Bristol*," the tythes of the town of Bristol; before the Conquest as belonging to the honour or lordship of Gloucester given to Robert Fitzhamon, who endowed the abbey with it, since purchased by the corporation. The tythes were reckoned at 14l. 10s. per annum fee farm rent.

§ Monast. Anglic. vol. i. p. 513.

founded the 11th of Edward 2d. in memory of Robert his only son deceased, leaving only three daughters. About the year 1193, Henry Bishop of Worcester by deed confirmed all the benefactions of Earl William to the church of Tewksbury, viz. the churches of St. James at Bristol with the priory and its appurtenances, the churches of St. John, of the Holy Trinity or Christ Church, of St. Jacob of the Market, (or St. Philip and Jacob) of St. Owen's, of St. Michael, in Bristol, and of St. Brendan without the vill of Bristol, and the church of Edricston, &c.

The prior had not only the privilege of a fair at St. James's in Ebdomanâ pentecostes by Earl William's charter, confirmed by King Henry 2d. but the full prisage of wines coming to the port of Bristol from twelve o'clock the Saturday before the feast of St. James to the same hour the Saturday following; and by inquisition taken 4th Edward 2d. it was allowed that the prior had such prisage and other free customs, and the liberty for taking 4d. for every hoghead so imported by virtue of the said charter, on which the King granted prohibition against Thomas Chaucer, his capital pincerna, in favour of the prior.† In 1673, 7 Aug. the mayor and commonalty having purchased of Sir Charles Gerard this prisage of wine with other rents, the Whitson court, and its privilege, &c. the Whitsuntide preceding a court was held in behalf of the city, and several ships of wine happening to arrive in this port that week, the officers of the said court and city seized several tons of wine for prisage, which being sold by the trustees and officers of the city to Sir Robert Cann and other persons, it was engaged to save harmless the merchants against such as claimed under Sir William Walters' patent for prisage, and others who might molest them on that account. Book of Orders, K, p. 250.

The site of this priory § was large, and extended from the west end of the present church or Whitson-court (where the prior held court for his lands without Lawford's-gate and Redlonde) to the barton of St. James, and consisted of a large manor-place or mansion-house with a spacious long hall, a buttery adjoining to the same, a long gallery extending westward to the church

† Little Red Book of Bristol, p. 96.

‡ Vide charter of Edward 4th. 1461, p. 82, 94, 180.

§ The endowment of it I find thus in a deed: William Earl endowed it with the manor of Keinsham or Chainsham, also the village of Chewton-Cainsham, Cherleton, Stokewood, and Stoketon and Felton, with its woods, members of the manor, and seven librates of land in Buthe-stoke, also all the manor of Mersfeld except the advowson of the church, also Ortum de Bertonu de Bristolle cum ortulano et tenemento quod tenuit: et 7 solidatas et 6 nummatas terræ in

church, rooms under and about the hall, and chambers at the west end of the long gallery, that adjoined to the church there, a great green court adjoining to the same, a great gate-house entering by the churchyard into the said green court, together with a dwelling-house adjoining the said gate-house, also a great stable in the said court, a brew-house and bake-house near to the kitchen-door, a little garden adjoining to the same brew-house, and another garden lying between the west end of the church there and the said great gate-house, also a little way or lane leading out of the great court to the west part of the gate entering into the way that parts Shooter's close and the Montague's; all which is the west part of the said mansion-house. On the east part or side were galleries and chambers in them, parlour, &c. united with the west part, a little square green court, and inclosed ground with a pigeon-house, a large barton extending from the gate in the Barr's-lane, whereby was the pound, two great barns, also several buildings lying on both sides the said barton. Such is the description met with in a manuscript deed of partition between the heirs of H. Brayne, 1579, which shews it to be a large and spacious priory.

At the east end of the church in the year 1753 part of the ruins of the priory was still to be seen, being a square room with niches in the wall round it, in length 24 yards, and of breadth in the clear 8 yards; possibly the refectory for the monks. It appeared to have been vaulted with freestone, of which the side walls were built very strong. Two brick-fronted houses are now built on the site of it.

Bishop Tanner, in his *Not. Monaf.* describes this priory, and refers to a great number of deeds* of grants to it by different Kings and others.—The following are the names of the priors that have occurred.

1374.

Berchull extra fossatum feriæ inter gardinum quod fuit avi mei et aquam avenæ, also all the rents of pepper and cummin, which my grandfather had at Bristol within the town and without, and that part of the land which was of my fee beyond the bridge of Avon, at the head of the bridge on the road as you go down to the Avon, also the churches of St. Mary and of St. Werburgh, Bristol, &c. &c.

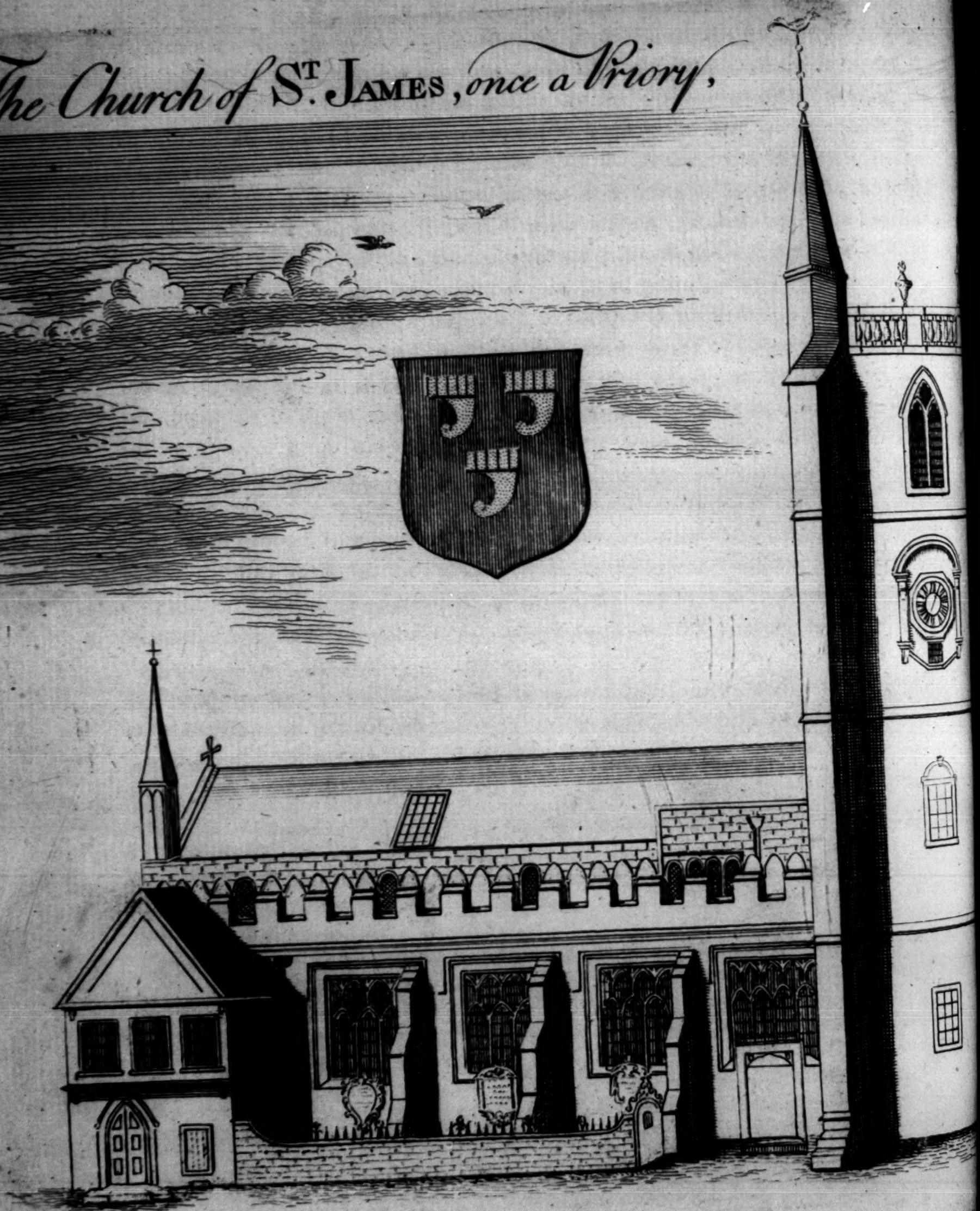
* Vide in *Monaf. Angl.* tom. i. p. 513. ex pat. 2d. Henry 4th. p. 2. m. 7. cartam R. Henry 2. confirm. donatorum concessiones: cart. antiq. T. n. 24. scil. Henry 2. de libertat. apud Asseliam.

Registrum brevium, f. 247. sub titulo ad quod damnum, de concess. c. marcar. reddit. ad inveniend. duos capellanos.

Stevens's Supplement, vol. ii. p. 516. Leland, Collect. vol. i. p. 85. Itin. vol. vi. p. 79. vol. vii. p. 91.



The Church of ST. JAMES, once a Priory,



1374. Thomas Norton, prior, 21 Richard 2d. Richard Bycester, prior, 1 Henry 4th. Richard Winchester, prior, 6 Henry 6th. 1428. William Newport, prior, 35 Henry 8th. Robert Circester, prior, who surrendered his priory at the dissolution, Jan. 9, 1540, and had allowed him at his dismissal, an annual pension of 13l. 6s. 8d. for his life.

Leland in Itin. vol. vi. fol. 88. says, "Robertus Nothus, &c. i. e. Robert the base son of Henry used on all solemn days to have with him the abbot of Tewksbyri with twelve monks of Bristol," and that "this Robert built the castle of Bristolle, and gave every tenth stone of the castle towards building the chapel of St. Mary, near the monastery of St. James at Bristol."

William of Worcester mentions (1480) the measurements of the priory and church. "The length of the church of St. James 54 steppys, bredth 40 steppys. The length of the priory of the aforesaid church 40 steppys. The length of the chapel of the Blessed Mary there 40 steppys, its bredth 12 steppys. The bredth of the churchyard 130 steppys, length of the churchyard of St. James 150 steppys." In another place he says, "The chapel of the Blessed Mary of St. James contains in length 21 yards, its bredth 7 yards. The bredth of the chapel of St. Ann contains 4 yards, the length of the said chapel 8 yards. The length of the nave of the church of the priory of St. James contains $15\frac{1}{2}$ yards or 26 steps. The length of the nave of the parish church annexed to the nave of the church of the said priory contains 22 yards or 40 steps."

This priory being a cell to the abby of Tewksbury and parcel of that great house was dissolved with it, and granted, 35 Henry 8th. to Henry Brayne, Esq; citizen and merchant taylor of London, (together with the lordship of Hadnoke in the marches of Wales, belonging to the dissolved priory of Lanthony near Glocester) for the sum of 667l. 7s. 6d. yielding and paying to the King and his heirs, &c. yearly the sum of 3l. 10s. $9\frac{1}{2}$ d. for

Munimenta nonnulla pertinentia ad ecclesiam S. Jacobi prope Bristol, 27 Henry 7. MSS. inter. codd. R. P. Johannis Moore, n. 351. in bibl. publ. acad. Cantab. f. In Itin. Will. de Worc. p. 120, 290. Dimens. Eccles.

In cartulario archiepiscopatus Cantuar. inter libros MSS. autoris in bibl. Bodl. Oxon. p. 192, professionem de submissione visitationi dom. archipisc. Cantuar. A. D. 1260. Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 547, 687, 727.

Cart. Antiq. K. n. 80 scil. R. Hen. 2. de libertat. pat. 25. Hen. 3. m. i. de amotione corporis alienoræ consanguineæ regis a prioratu S. Jacobi Bristol ad monast. de Ambresbury.

Pat. 28. Edward 1. 1300, n. 17. de terra de esselega et feria, &c.

Pat. 13. Edward 3. 1339, p. 2. m. 16. vel. 17.

Pat. 20. Richard 2. 1396, p. 2. m. 22.

Pat. 1. Henry 4. 1399. p. 7. m. 6. vel. 7.

Pat. 7. Edward 4. 1467. p. 1. m.

for the said priory of St. James and lands belonging thereto, manor-house, tenements, and hereditaments, in the county of Gloucester. It appears by a deed of sale penes me the following churches paid H. Brayne and his heirs in right of patronage an annual rent or pension, formerly reserved to the monastery of Tewksbury, viz. the rectory of St. Peter, 1l. rectory of Christ Church, 10s. rectory of St. John for the church, 10s. and the churchyard, 13s. 4d. rectory of St. Ewen, 6d. and 1lb. of wax, the rectory of St. Michael, 4s. vicarage of St. Philip and Jacob, 1l. 6s. 8d. By this easy and cheap purchase Brayne and his heirs enjoyed this large estate and the above pensions and advowson of the parsonage or rectory of St. James, as it is in some deeds called, but it may be rather deemed a donative, as by the deed Brayne was always bound to find a priest for the church and to allow him a stipend for the cure of souls there; also the right of patronage to the several churches in Bristol above-mentioned that paid him the pensions, with all tythes of corn, hay, wool, lamb, &c. belonging to the church of St. Philip and St. Jacob, and the customs and all profits of the fair and prisage of wine in Whitson week, which belonged to the priory of St. James; also the right of presentation to the vicarages of the parish churches of Mangotsfield and Stapleton, the former paying him 1lb. of wax, the latter 2lb. yearly. Robert Brayne, Esq; on the death of his father succeeded to these estates, and from him they descended to Dame Emma, wife of Sir Charles Somerset, and to Ann Winter, wife of G. Winter, Esq; sisters and co-heiresses to the said Robert Brayne, as appears by deed of partition, dated 27th January, 21st Elizabeth, 1579, penes me. Sir Charles Somerset enjoyed the same with the patronage of the churches until his death, 11th March, 1598. He was buried in his church of St. James, and left an only daughter, who married Sir Charles Redcliff Gerrard, Knight.

By an old deed it appears that this churchyard, &c. was leased for thirty years to George Harrington, mayor, and others, the parishioners, by Sir C. Gerrard, 15th October, 1617, for the sum of 26l. 13s. 4d. as a fine, together with the herbage of the said churchyard, all privy tythes and oblations, also tythe pigs, and all tythes of gardens and orchards lying and being within the parish of St. James, except tythes of hay, corn, grain, lambs, calves, or wool, belonging to the manor-house of St. James, yielding and paying yearly to the said Sir Charles Gerrard the sum of 3l. 6s. 8d. and providing an able and sufficient pastor or curate for the church, and paying all tenths, procurations, &c. going out of the said rectory or parsonage, and
keeping

keeping the church and chancel in good reparations when required to the end of the said term.

About the year 1626 Sir Charles Gerrard granted and conveyed the premises then in lease to the churchwardens and inhabitants, to Robert Aldworth and G. Harrington and their heirs in trust for the mayor and corporation, who then received the 3l. 6d. 8d. and 2s. 6d. or a couple of capons in lieu of tythes, and for the church-yard as appears by the chamberlain's receipt, who still continues to receive the same; and also the several pensions out of the churches of St. Peter, Christ-Church, St. Ewen's, St. Michael, and St. Philip's; to which and to this church of St. James the mayor and corporation of Bristol have now the right of presentation, the first time they exercised this right was in the year 1627, and they gave for all these advowsons the sum of 450l. only, as appears by Sir Charles Gerrard's receipt the 18th of May 1627. After this lease had expired the corporation of the city, the 19th of July 1670, by an act of common council agreed to grant the parishioners and feoffees of the parish another lease for 30 years, if Mr. Paul the minister should so long live and continue minister, and receive the agreed stipend of 40l. per annum, being a moiety of the profits of the fair,* as appears by an entry in the vestry books, except and reserved to the corporation the great tythes and the parsonage-house, which Mr. Paul then let out, built lately by some well disposed person, and which house is for the sole use of the minister and his successors for ever, except also the yearly rent of 3l. 6s. 8d. and the moiety of the profits of the fair to the said minister to be paid half yearly, the parishioners to pay all subsidies, tenths &c. and repair the chancel.

The 17th of July the 24th of Cha. 2d. 1672, the corporation of Bristol purchased of the King the several rents reserved to the crown payable by H. Brayne and his heirs for the church of St. James and the lands belonging thereto. Vid. p. 132.

This priory and its superb buildings being thus sold and parted between different persons, were soon disposed of to others, and the old erections converted to various uses; and the ruin of it is become so compleat, that no traces of it at present (1788) are seen.

The church alone remains to point out its site, which Robert Earl of Gloucester founded in 1130, and it was called according to Leland, "the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. James," which was made a parish church (the city increasing towards the then priory) upon petition of the inhabitants to Thomas Chesterton then abbot of Tewkesbury and to the priory

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* In the year 1689 the churchwardens received for the standings of the fair about 80l.

of St. James, who admitted them to hear mass and to celebrate all other divine offices for the living and the dead as in other diocesan churches on certain conditions agreed upon by a deed of indenture, penes me, dated at Tewkesbury St. Andrew's day 1374; the prior was to appoint one officiating minister or clerk, called in the deed *Aquæbajulum* or carrier of the holy water, or more if necessary: the provision and donation of which office was to be reserved always to the prior, and he was to be supported by a moiety of the profits arising from the fixing of pales or any thing else penetrating or occupying the soil of the church-yard at the fair annually held there at the feast of St. James, together with half the profits arising from ringing the bells for the dead, and at their anniversaries, and two processions. The parishioners on their part were to build one square belfry (*campanile*) of stone in form of a tower, at their own expence, but the prior to find the stone and earth for the mortar, as much as was necessary and could be found within the limits of the priory and its demesnes; that the bells should be placed therein at the joint expence of both parties, and not to be removed but by the consent of both, and to be used in common by both, and to be repaired at their mutual expence.

Hence it appears that this church was part of it parochial, and part of it conventual, belonging to the priory or convent: and William of Worcester, p. 290, describes the nave of the one as joining and annexed to the nave of the other, and measuring 22 yards in breadth and $15\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length: and p. 247 he mentions, "the parish church of St. James near the church of the priory in the East part of the town of Bristol." It had a chancel, but that is pulled down, being the monastery church or chapel aforementioned; and so the tower is left standing on the East end between the church and chancel, and served formerly to the use both of the parish and convent.

The church-yard or spacious burying ground belonging to this church was consecrated by Simon Bishop of Worcester about the year 1129, as appears by his deed of confirmation* of all tythes and churches which this church possessed, in which is mentioned that of St. Peter of Bristol, within (*infra*) or beneath the castle and without the lordship of the borough; and it adds, "moreover in that day in which he dedicated the church-yard of the church of St. James† at Bristol, then in building, (because the burgeses used to be carried to burial where they would out of his diocese) he commanded by his episcopal authority, that none of the said city should now be carried elsewhere to be buried except to Tewkesbury; he also there appointed and

ordained

* Stephens Addit. to Dugd. Monast. v. 2. p. 191. No. 161. 24.

† "Cemiterium Ecclesiæ Sancti Jacobi apud Bristol ædificandæ dedicavit."

ordained that the church should be subject by a perpetual right to the monastery of St. Mary of Tewkesbury on the petition of master Benedict the abbot, and with the consent of Robert the King's son Earl of Gloucester, and the Countess Mabilia his wife."

This deed ascertains the time of the foundation of this church to be when Benedict was abbot, who continued so from 1124 to 1137, when he died, so that at a medium 1130 may be deemed nearly the time when it was first built and consecrated, which is 18 years before the great monastery of St. Augustin in this city (now the cathedral) was built.

The church of St. James being at first only a chapel to the adjoining priory, was not a very large or magnificent structure, though it is not void of elegance and beauty, the arches of the ailes however are admired as being of the true Saxon architecture, semicircular, with pillars round, plain and massive, the capitals a very little ornamented — a species of arch Robert Earl of Gloucester the founder seems to have copied from some in the fine old castle of Bristol, which he was repairing and enlarging at this very time: it consists of three ailes of equal length, the middle is 29 feet and a half broad and 47 feet two inches high, and the whole breadth of the church from North to South is 66 feet.

At the West end is an organ and gallery, towards the erecting of which Edward Colston Esq; gave 100l. The tower which is built of freestone is very strong, plain but neat, 29 yards and 2 feet in height, adorned at present with a modern balustrade and an urn at each corner: here is a very musical peal of 8 bells, with a clock and dial at the South side: — The vestry-room at the south west end defaces this south view of it, the only one that can be taken (vid. plate). — The west end of the middle aile is in a great measure hid by the parish houses, which buildings bring in a revenue to the church. — There is here a pretty Gothic window, the figure may be seen in the plate, and other embellishments in that taste; this western end being formerly the entrance used by the monks. — This church was repaired at the expence of 600l. by the vestry and parishoners when the Rev. Mr. Bayley was incumbent, about the year 1698; and it was again repaired about the year 1768, the altar embellished with a painting of the transfiguration, new pews and spacious galleries erected the better to accommodate the numerous parishoners with room, but still it is very insufficient for so large a parish. Application therefore has been lately (1787) made to parliament and an act obtained for dividing it into two parishes, and erecting another church to be called St. Paul's.

So strict observers of the sabbath were the people of this parish no longer ago than 1679, that at a vestry then held here four persons were judged guilty

of a most heinous crime and were cited into the spiritual court for purloining the Lord's day in travelling to Bath on foot, to the great dishonour of Almighty God and true religion, for which they confessed their sins in the said court and paid 20s. for the use of the parish. — The present patrons of this church are the corporation of Bristol, and the value of the living above 400l. per annum. In the year 1291, amongst the valuations of the several benefices taken from the Lincoln manuscript, is the following, "the priory of St. James, Bristol, without the borough, paid to the church of Tewkesbury 23 marks (15l. 6s. 8d.) per annum, and several churches paid pensions to the prior of St. James, viz. St. Michael's, St. Ewin's &c.

The following is a LIST of the MINISTERS of this Church.

PATRONS.

- Abby of Tewkesbury. 1164 Picard, clerk to William Earl of Gloucester.
The monks in turn belonging to the priory performed the divine offices in the church till the dissolution.
- Henry Brayne, Esq; 1544 Bartholemew Owyne, he died May 10th 1570.
Sir Charles Somersfet. 1571 William Wolff.
1576 David Williams, displaced the next year.
1577 William Jones, died 1585.
1586 Thomas Twinborow, died 1594.
1594 Thomas Newton.
- Sir Charles Gerrard. 1601 John Powell.
1616 John Mafon.
- Corporation of Bristol. 1629 William Batchellor, died the 30th of June 1636.
1636-7 John Paul, not conforming he resigned 1663.
1663 Thomas Horne, died 1697, buried in this church.
1697 Benjamin Baily, died the 25th of April 1720, aged 49, he published a volume of Lent sermons.
1720 Samuel Crefwick, D. D. 1727 Dean of Bristol, and afterwards translated to the deanry of Wells, but held this cure till 1753.
1753 — Price, removed from Temple, buried here and succeeded by
1771 Carew Reynel, buried here and succeeded by
1783 Dr. Small, the present incumbent.

The Rev. Mr. Batchellor, Mr. Paul, and Mr. Horne had several sums paid them by the parish vestry (besides the yearly collection from the parishioners) as wages, such as 30l. 40l. and 50l. which as lessees under the corporation bound to find a minister they were obliged to pay.

The impropriation of the chapel of Stapleton dedicated to the Holy Trinity, as well as Mangotsfield, belonged to this church; and because they of Stapleton used always to bury at St. James's, the abbot of Tewkesbury the 5th of May 1438 granted them licence to bury at Stapleton, so as they came to hear mass at St. James's, and they paid two pounds of wax for this privilege for ever. By ancient deeds without date it appears that Poyntz granted to the church of St. James tythe of hay in Tockyngton manor.

The chauntries in this church were three, one in the 1st year of Henry 4th. established by John Stone by licence from the King; he gave the prior two messuages and one shop in Bristol and its suburbs, for one monk to celebrate mass daily for his soul at the altar of St. Thomas. — John Spicer sheriff of Bristol, by will the 19th of Henry 6th. 1440, founded a chantry here for one priest and seven monks to sing mass for ever for the repose of his soul and his wife Avis's, and for all the faithful; the annual rents by the rent roll penes me, amounted to 10l. 1s. distributed to the prior, monks and singing priests, to the mayor and sheriffs for attending; the bedeman and for wax tapers, and for bread for the dole to the poor. — William Ponam by will 1454 gave several tenements for a chantry at the altar of the Virgin Mary to be celebrated for his and his wife Edith's souls, and for his obit the 9th of February, the proctors to be paid for attending and distributing bread to the poor. These two last chauntries were sequestered to the King's use the 1st of Edward 6th. for non-payments of subsidies and tenths. See p. 63, 64.

There are in this church but few monuments: — The first to be mentioned is the founder of this priory and church, Robert Earl of Gloucester, of whose character and fame see before in the chapter of the castle, pages 194. 209. In the south wall once there was a stone figure preserved of a man habited like a pilgrim, supposed to be for him, which is remembered by some old persons now living,* which in the several repairs this church has received is now destroyed and lost, or concealed by the high wainscot seats there.

The Princess Eleonora (called the Damoiselle of Brittany) was buried † here
after

* In the south aisle near the belfry door in 1710 was a tomb, with a naked figure at full length, supposed then to be for the founder Robert Earl of Gloucester, manuscript penes me. — † 1. Cart. Antiq. K. n. 30 Scil. R. Henr. 2d. de libertate. patent 25 H. 3. M. 1. de Amotione coporis Alionoræ consanguineæ Regis a prioratu Sancti Jacobi Bristol ad monaster. de Ambresbury.

after a cruel confinement of 40 years in Bristol castle by King John her unnatural uncle, who had usurped her right to the crown of England: her body was removed hence to the nunnery of Ambresbury in Wiltshire, to which she had given the manor of Melksham near Lacock in Wilts, a licence being obtained for its removal of King Henry the 3d. the 25th year of his reign, 1241.

The next person to be mentioned is Sir Charles Somers, who with his lady Emma lie buried on the south side of the altar; and a very handsome monument is erected there to their memory, with the following inscription: against the monument is the statue of a man in armour kneeling at an altar, and opposite to him his wife in the same posture, and behind her an only daughter also kneeling; it is a spacious lofty monument adorned on each side with Corinthian pillars, and embellished at top with the arms of the family in a large shield:

Memoriæ & pietati sacrum

Carolus hoc parvo tegitur sub marmore MAGNUS,
Corpore procero & prælustri stemmate MAGNUS,
Sed famâ, virtute, fide (ut fas credere) MAJOR;
Per zelum Cælum scandens fit MAXIMUS; adde
Principis ut vivens fuerat vexillifer iste,
Principis ut moriens Christi vexillifer iste.

My body earth, my breath was borrow'd ayre,
My dated lease expired years of strife,
My soul with stamp of God, temple of prayer,
Dissolv'd by death mounted to glorious life:
Life was but lent conditional to dye,
Death made the period of mortalitye,
And gave me entrance to eternitie.

Above the heads of the figures on the table within a scroll is the following inscription:

Sir Charles Somers Knight 5th son* to the Right Honourable Henry Earl of Worcester and standard bearer unto her Majesties honourable band of gentlemen pensioners who married Eme widow of Giles Morgan of Newport Esquire, daughter and co-heiress to Henry Brayne Esq; by whom he had one sole daughter first married to Ratcliff Gerrard Esq; and after to Edward Fox Esq; he deceased the 11 day of March Anno Domini 1598, being of the

* See the pedigree of the Earls of Worcester and Dukes of Beaufort in Atkins's Gloucestershire, p. 244.

the age of 64 years who lyeth here intombed with his wife Eme who departed Anno Domini 1590.

On a brass plate at the entrance of the middle aile was the following inscription to Robert Daws, son to Samuel Daws of Wotton-under-edge in Gloucestershire, clothier, who died the 31st of July 1667, aged 16.

Matris ego quondam sola & charissima proles

Hic jaceo tumulo conditus ecce meo:

Doctrinæ studio simul ac pietatis amore

Incubui, fragilis dum mihi vita fuit:

At deus incurfu properantem semper eodem

Abstulit, & cælis est mihi sola quies.

In the north aile against the wall are the following monuments and inscriptions:

To David Barrett M. B. who died Feb. 28. 1734. aged 40.

To Tho. and Eliz. Hicks grand children of Henry Dighton Esq; Tho. died Sept. the 1st. 1689. Eliz. 28 Dec. 1694. Also

To Tho. Hicks Gent. who died the 10 of Jan. 1716 aged 69 and Martha his wife who died 6 July 1719 aged 68.

To Mr. Henry Dighton who died the 15th of March 1673 aged 64 and Judith his wife who died the 30th of Jan. 1721 aged 87 and George Dighton their eldest son who died the 23d of April 1702 aged 68.

Against the west wall is a marble monument with an inscription:— To Mary Scandrett daughter of George Dighton wife of Captain Christopher Scandrett, who died Dec. the 20th 1737 aged 66 with Christopher Mary and George their children.

In the south wall is a marble monument:— To Mary the wife of Walter Edwards Esq; daughter to the Right Honourable Richard Freeman of Battford in the county of Gloucester Esq; sometime Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, distinguished by her birth but much more by her virtues, highly exemplary in the characters of wife and parent; constant in her devotions, unblemished in her life. She died the 12 of July 1736 in the 37th year of her age leaving issue 2 sons Walter and Tho. arms F. erm and S. party per bend a lion rampant or. quartered with F. az. 3 lozenges in fess. or.

On the first pillar next the south window is a handsome monument with the following inscription and arms, F. er. and S. party per bend a lion rampant or. quartered with F. G. a chevron er. between 3 escallops or.

Juxta hanc parietem in adjacente arêâ triumphalem Christi servatoris reditum expectat, Thomas Edwards armiger. vir, in lege municipali exercitatissimus, spectatæ

speculatae fidei, probitatis eximia, et singularis industriae, cui, five clientium numerum, five varia, quae expedivit negotia, spectemus, paucos admodum in his omnibus reperiemus pares, superiorem neminem. illi in laboris solatium (rara vivendi conditione) concessit deus, ut non imminuto animi vigore, non gravi morbo implicitus, sine taedio, sine vitae fastidio, felix conjuge, liberis, fortunis, ad extremum deveniret senectutem: et cum nihil amplius vel in votis restaret, ut morte facili, et optimo cuique invidenda, inter suorum lacrimas et suspiria e vivis excederet: nuptias bis fecit, e primis filium unicum, tres filias suscepit; e secundis sex filios, duas filias, ex ambabus quinque filios, duas filias reliquit superflites. Ipse obiit 7 mo. die Julij A. D. 1727°. Aetatis suae 83 tio natus 17 die Martii 1644 to.

Jana Edwards filia Johannis Walter Thomae Edwards uxor dilectissima, & vere vidua cum quo conjunctissime vixit annos quadraginta quinque matrona omni laude dignissima eodem loco suos cineres reponi voluit, obiit Februarii octavo die A. C. 1733 tio. Aetatis suae 81 mo.

On a brass tablet near the upper door was cut a figure in an alderman's robes, with four sons behind him; opposite to him his wife with four daughters behind her, all kneeling before an altar, with an inscription to Henry Gibbs mayor, who died the 19th of May 1636, aged 73, and to Ann his wife who died 15th December 1631, aged 70.

In the chancel on a stone — Wm. Batchelor minister and preacher of this parish died 3 Jan. 1636.

On another thus on a brass plate — Hic jacet Rev. Benj. Bayly A. M. hujus ecclesiae per annos prope viginti tres Rector cum tribus liberis multisque alijs amicis, Quibuscum assurgere & in corpore immortalis reviviscere, O! Quantum Gaudium! Quantae congratulationes! O Deus Bone! O Benigne Pater! Te oramus ut acceleres regnum tuam, nosque quam subito tubam istam caelestem quam ex hisce sordibus ad nubes evocemur, exaudiamus: O! sumus ex eorum numero, pro quibus Christi sanguis haud incassum effundebatur, caelisque recepti Beatificae visione fruamur: tibi pater filioque tuo salvatori nostro gratias pro tanto munere in aeternum agentes. Obiit 25 Aprilis A. D. 1720. Aetatis suae 49.

On another was a long Latin inscription to Wm. Hobson, son of Henry Hobson; he died 1654, Aetatis suae 57, with the arms quartered Hobson and Colston. — And near this, to Margaret Colston, who married the said Wm. Hobson; she was only daughter of William Colston the elder, she died 11 May 1647, aged 41. — John Pears, a worthy benefactor to this city, died 18 Aug. 1662.

The Chester family are buried here; on a raised tomb covering a vault against the wall of the old priory were inscriptions

To James Chester, who died the 17th of March, 1560.

To William Chester, who died the 1st of January, 1572-3.

To Edward Chester, who died in 1580.

To Walter the son of William Chester, who died the 21st of September, 1641, aged 88.

Thomas Chester, son of the above William Chester, was mayor of Bristol: he purchased the manor of Almondsbury, and was high sheriff of the county of Gloucester in 1577, and was buried Sept. 24, 1583.

As this parish is very large and consequently is burdened with many poor, so it is very happy to be so liberally endowed with charitable institutions and benefactions, as appears by the following accounts and the tables of benefactors.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. James's Parish.

1599,	Alderman Coale gave to the almshouse on St. James's-back	l.	s.	d.
	4l. per annum for ever - - - - -	80	0	0
1604,	Mrs. Alice Coale gave 12l. per annum, to be paid by 20s.			
	per month, to three almshouses in this parish for ever	240	0	0
	Mr. Thomas Brooks gave a tenement to the almshouse in			
	Lewin's-mead of 6l. per annum to twelve poor for ever	120	0	0
	Alderman Robert Kitchen gave 40s. per annum to four			
	house-holders quarterly for ever - - - - -	40	0	0
	Alderman Packer gave 10s. per annum to the poor for ever			
	out of the house at the Cross Keys by the Fish Market	10	0	0
	Mr. Cox gave 20s. to the poor for ever - - - - -	20	0	0
1536,	Mrs. Harrington gave 2s. in bread weekly.			
	Alderman George Harrington gave 40s. per annum to the			
	poor for ever - - - - -	40	0	0
	Mr. Thomas Clements gave 20s. per annum to the poor for			
	ever - - - - -	20	0	0
	Mr. William Sage gave 3l. per annum to the poor, and 20s.			
	for two sermons yearly, for ever - - - - -	80	0	0
	Mr. Pierce gave 20s. for a sermon the 5th of November			
	yearly - - - - -	20	0	0
	Mr. Francis Glead, some time sheriff, gave 40s. to be paid			
	10s, quarterly to four housekeepers for ever - - - - -	40	0	0
	Alderman Richard Vickris gave 1s. per week for ever	52	0	0
	B B B			
	Alderman			

Alderman Miles Jackson gave a garden the rent thereof to the poor in bread for ever.		l.	s.	d.
William Davis and his wife gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor for ever		50	0	0
1668,	John Lewis gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor	10	0	0
Mr. Thomas Walter, woollen-draper, gave 4s. in bread weekly to the poor for ever		10	8	0
Alderman Arthur Farmer gave 40l. the profit thereof to fix housekeepers for ever		40	0	0
Thomas Farmer, gentleman, gave 50l. the profit thereof in bread and coal to the poor for ever		50	0	0

SECOND TABLE.

1668,	Abraham Birkins gave 40s. yearly to the poor for ever	40	0	0
Mr. William Hobson the elder, merchant, some time sheriff of this city, gave 40s. per annum to the poor of this parish by 10s. a quarter for ever		40	0	0
Mrs. Farmer, relict of Mr. Thomas Farmer, gentleman, gave 40l. the profit whereof to the poor in bread for ever		40	0	0
1670,	Mr. Charles Powell, some time sheriff of this city, gave 20l. the profit whereof to the poor in bread for ever	20	0	0
1671,	Thomas Gest, of Exon, tucker, gave 10l. the profit whereof to the poor in bread for ever	10	0	0
Henry Price, gentleman, gave 100l. the profit whereof to poor housekeepers on St. Thomas-day yearly for ever		100	0	0
1672,	Henry Dighton, of this parish, brewer, gave 5l. per annum to buy ten coats for ten poor men of this parish for ever	100	0	0
1673,	Mr. Robert Markham, of London, gave 5l. the profit thereof to be given to the poor on St. James's-day yearly for ever	5	0	0

THIRD TABLE.

1678,	Mrs. Mary Walter, widow, gave 20l. half of the profit to be given to the minister for a sermon on the first Lord's-day next after the 9th day of November, in the afternoon; and the other half of the profit in bread to the poor for ever	20	0	0
1679,	Captain Gabriel Deane, of this parish, gave 30l. the profit to the poor for ever	30	0	0

1679, Richard Chriftnas, of this parifh, gave 5ol. the profit in	l.	s.	d.
bread weekly for ever - - - -	50	0	0
1680, Mr. Robert Haines and Mrs. Catherine Large gave 100l.			
to the poor - - - -	100	0	0
1681, Ann wife of Mr. Thomas Horne, gave 20l. to the poor	20	0	0
1685, Mr. Jeremiah Holway gave 30l. the profit thereof to the			
poor in bread for ever - - - -	30	0	0
Timothy Parker gave 5l. the profit for ever - -	5	0	0

FOURTH TABLE.

1685, Mrs. Catherine Dighton gave 5ol. the profit of it to be			
given to ten poor widows of this parifh by 5s. apiece			
yearly for ever - - - -	50	0	0
1686, Mr. Samuel Hale, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof			
weekly to the poor in bread; and alfo the intereft of			
23ol. towards the apprenticing of poor children in feven			
parifhes of this city yearly for ever, of which this is one	240	0	0
1687, Sir William Cann, Knight and Baronet, gave 100l. to			
four parifhes, whereof this hath a quarter part, the pro-			
fit thereof to be diftributed to the poor the 8th of January			
for ever - - - -	25	0	0
Mr. Godfrey Vanitterne gave 20l. the profit to the poor			
yearly for ever - - - -	20	0	0
Mr. Anthony Wood, fugar-baker, gave 20l. the profit to			
eight poor houfekeepers on the 2d of April for ever	20	0	0
1690, Mr. Edward Tilly, merchant, gave 25l. the profit thereof			
to be given to the poor of this parifh in bread weekly			
for ever - - - -	25	0	0

FIFTH TABLE.

1688, John Lawford, Efq; fome time mayor and alderman of			
this city, gave 5ol. the profit thereof to be given to the			
poor of this parifh in bread weekly for ever -	50	0	0
1690, Mr. John Sandford, junr. gave 10l. the intereft to be diftributed			
to the poor of this parifh the 14th of February for ever	10	0	0
Mr. John England gave 10l. the churchwardens and over-			
feers being intrufted to diftribute the profit thereof to			
fix poor widows, not receiving alms, on St. Thomas'-			
day for ever - - - -	10	0	0

1690,	Samuel Polkins, of this parish, mariner, left 5l. to be given in bread to the poor, which was distributed.	l.	s.	d.
1703,	Mrs. Mary Bickham, widow, gave 100l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish in bread every Sunday for ever	100	0	0
1705,	Isaac Davis, Esq; some time sheriff of this city, gave 100l. the profit thereof to be given to the poor of this parish in bread weekly for ever	-	-	-
1713,	The gift of Mr. Stephen Chapman, senr. 20s. per annum to the minister of this parish and his successors for ever to preach a preparatory sermon to the sacrament upon Good Friday, and another 20s. to be distributed equally to eight poor housekeepers not receiving alms, but frequenting public prayers and the sacrament, at the will of the executor, on the 20th of December yearly for ever	40	0	0
1716,	Mr. John Lord, junr. of this city, merchant, gave 10l. the interest thereof to be distributed in bread yearly to such poor inhabitants of this parish as the churchwardens shall think fit	10	0	0
	William Whittington, late of Stapleton, in the county of Gloucester, Esq; deceased, gave to this parish 100l. to be laid out in purchasing of lands in fee, which he so settled as the yearly rents thereof may be by the minister and churchwardens disposed of according to their discretion for the use of such decayed and poor inhabitants as shall not receive other alms or assistance	100	0	0
1718,	Mrs. Esther Paul gave to the poor of St. James in Bristol 5l. the profit thereof to be laid out in bread, and distributed on St. Paul's-day yearly	5	0	0
1722,	Thomas Winstone, Esq; gave 100l. the interest thereof to be laid out in buying of six coats for six poor men not receiving alms, to be delivered to them on the Sunday next after the 22d day of November yearly for ever	100	0	0

SIXTH TABLE.

1715,	The Rev. Mr. Stephen Chapman, deceased, gave 40s. yearly to this parish for ever, whereof 20s. to the minister for a sermon on the 30th of January, and 20s. to such poor of the said parish who attend such sermon	40	0	0
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		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1718,	Mr. Michael Pope, a dissenting minister of this parish, gave 50 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof, viz. 20 <i>s.</i> for a sermon on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Michael, and 30 <i>s.</i> in bread to the poor the week following yearly for ever	50	0	0
1724,	Mr. John Brittain gave 20 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to the poor in bread on Christmas-day yearly for ever	20	0	0
1727,	Mrs. Alice James, widow, gave 40 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to the poor not receiving alms, whereof 20 <i>s.</i> to two poor widows and 20 <i>s.</i> in bread on Christmas-day yearly for ever	40	0	0
1730,	Mr. John Haythorne gave 30 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof, viz. 20 <i>s.</i> to the minister for a sermon on Christmas-day in the afternoon, 6 <i>s.</i> in bread to the poor, and 4 <i>s.</i> to the clerk and sexton yearly for ever	30	0	0
1731,	Mr. Charles Weekes gave 100 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to be laid out in fix gowns to be given to fix poor women on the 1 st of November yearly for ever	100	0	0
	Mrs. Martha Stephens left by her will, dated 1726, two messuages or tenements, the profit thereof (after the decease of her husband William Stephens) to be given to ten poor widows (not receiving alms) yearly for ever.			
1720,	George Packer, of this city, merchant, left by will 33 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per annum to this parish for ever, whereof 21 <i>s.</i> to the minister for a sermon on the 28 th of January, 5 <i>s.</i> to the organist, 5 <i>s.</i> to the clerk, and 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to the sexton	33	10	0
1723,	Mrs. Ann Merrick gave 200 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to be paid the minister for reading prayers in the church once every day for ever	200	0	0
1729,	Mr. Isaac Hollier, of Woolverhampton, left per will 10 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to the poor of this parish in bread yearly for ever	10	0	0
1734,	Mrs. Jane Edwards gave 21 <i>l.</i> the profit to augment the gift of her mother, Mrs. Mary Walter, viz. 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to the minister, and 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to the poor in bread on the first Sunday after the 9 th of November for ever	21	0	0
1741,	Mr. James Jeanes, merchant, left by will 130 <i>l.</i> the interest thereof to be laid out in fix coats for fix poor men, and fix gowns for fix poor women, inhabitants of this parish at Christmas yearly for ever	130	0	0
				In

In the middle aile are two brafs branches. That before the pulpit has engraven on it thus: " The gift of Hugh Cornifh, of this parifh, houfe-carpenter, the 21ft of December, 1706." That near the organ-loft thus: " Jofeph Badger, churchwarden, Thomas Jones, William Barwick, Jofeph Hifcox, Jofeph Hook, fenr. Jofeph Wood, and William Prior, gave this branch to St. James's church, September 14, 1697.

N. B. The 1s. per week given to the poor of this parifh by Alderman Richard Vickris, and the fame fum per week to Redcliff and Temple, &c. in all 10l. 8s. come out per annum of two tenements in High-ftreet.

It appears from the rent roll, that the annual rents paid for houfes in hand and lands on leafe for lives paying lord's rent belonging to this parifh church amounted in 1743 to 190l. 16s. 6d. per annum, and are probably fince by the good management of the veftry much increafed. There are alfo certain annuities or yearly gift money payable out of eftates fettled to the poor of this parifh, amounting to 84l. 18s.

YEARLY GIFTS.

The gift of Thomas Walter, woollen-draper, out of Hook's Mills	l.	s.	d.
estate - - - - -	10	8	0
Of Mr. Packer, out of a houfe on the Quay, near the			
Fifh Market - - - - -	3	0	0
Of Mr. Cox, for coal, paid by the chamber of Bristol	1	0	0
Of Mr. Francis Glead, by Chrift Church veftry	2	0	0
Of Mr. Henry Dighton, in coats - - -	5	0	0
Of Mr. Charles Weeks, in gowns - - -	5	0	0
Of the Chamber of Bristol, fundry gifts - - -	10	4	0
Of Mr. Thomas Clements, by Mr. Simkin, 1630	1	0	0
Of Mrs. Boucher and Langton, by the Merchants'-hall,			
as feoffees, to poor widows, at 5s. each, about 80l. to			
all the parifhes, of which this has a part, perhaps about	5	0	0
Of Mr. Birkin, paid by the churchwarden of St. Maryport	2	0	0
Of Alderman Vickris - - - - -	2	12	0
Of St. Peter's Hofpital, for the poor-houfe in Barr's-lane	10	14	0
Of the treafurer of Queen Elizabeth's Hofpital	4	0	0
Of Mr. Stephen Chapman, fenr. by Job Gardener's			
executors - - - - -	1	0	0
Of Mr. Stephen Chapman, junr. by Mr. Okey's executors	1	0	0
Of Mr. James Tucker, out of a houfe in the Pithay	0	10	0
Of Mr. Winstone - - - - -	5	0	0
			The

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The gift of Mrs. Dighton, in shifts - - - - -	2	10	0
Of Mr. Whittington, out of a house in the croft	9	0	0
Of Michael Pope, for a sermon, &c. - - - - -	2	10	0
Of Mr. John Haythorn, in bread and a sermon	1	10	0
	£	84	18 0

This parish is of great extent, and has been every year increafing in buildings and number of inhabitants, which has occafioned it to be divided, 1788, into two parishes, and another church soon to be erected here to be called St. Paul's: see p. 85. A line drawn through Merchant-street, Barr's-lane, Stoke's-croft, and up through Hillgrove-street, marks the division of the two parishes, all on the right being allotted to St. Paul's. In 1749 it appears the whole parish consisted of 1347 houses rated to the poor at 733*l.* per annum, and there were that year 398 marriages, 400 christenings, 416 burials; but in 1559 there were only 8 marriages, 10 christenings, 7 burials. In 1709 the poor rate was 207*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* King's tax 588*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* burials 100, christenings 100, weddings 50. But now in the year 1788 each of these have been so amazingly increased by the new streets and numerous accession of inhabitants, as almost to exceed belief, and the rates for the poor have risen in proportion. From the 25th March, 1565, to the 13th February following, 188 persons died of the plague in this parish; from the 3d July, 1575, to the 20th Jan. following, 137; from the 20th August, 1603, to the 22d March, 1603-4, 390; from the 11th April, 1645, to the 18th February, 1645-6, 340 persons.

There were in this parish two frieries; one house of Franciscan or grey friers, another of Dominican or black friers. Whilst the order of grey friers flourished the custody of Bristol had nine convents under it, and each friery had a common seal; this of Bristol had St. Anthony of Padua.

It was the head convent of this custody. William of Worcester, 1480, thus describes it:—"Chorus ecclesiæ," i. e. "The choir of the church contains in length 28 yards or 50 paces, the breadth of the choir 9 yards or 18 paces, the length of the nave of the said church with the two great ailes contains 28 yards or 50 paces, the breadth of the nave with the two ailes contains 27 yards or 52 paces, the breadth of the belfry square tower contains 4 yards or 7 spaces; there are 4 arches in the north nave of the church, and as many in the south." Leland says, "The grey friers house was on the right bank of the Frome water, not far from Bartholomew's hospital." And that rightly describes its situation, as on the same side of Lewin's-mead with it, and at no great distance from it; the Presbyterian meeting-house and the large
sugar-house

sugar-house next it are built upon its site, and not a trace of it now is to be seen, though once a large grand and noble building, being one of the capital custodies of Franciscans in the kingdom. Bishop Tanner notes it, and refers to some old deeds concerning it.

In an old deed penes me Spencer's almshouse still in being is described as directly opposite the house of the grey friers, which points out the site of it as above given.

In the year 1334 in the church of the friers minors, Bristol, were ordained by the Bishop of Worcester 171 accolites, 150 sub-deacons, 39 deacons, and 73 priests. Before the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol were taken out of Worcester the Bishop had very numerous ordinations.

1485, Brother John Whitfield was custos of the custody of grey friers, Bristol.

This friery was founded before the year 1234, and after its dissolution King Henry 8th. granted the site of it to the mayor and citizens of Bristol for public uses: see p. 134.

The black or Dominican friers, called also friers preachers from their office, was on the right hand of the From river, according to Leland, founded by Maurice de Gaunt, uncle to Robert de Gourney, so that this house must have been founded as early as 1228 or 1229. I refer to Tanner for the ancient deeds concerning it; though few of the houses of the friers were ever endowed, yet many of them were large and stately buildings and had noble churches, in which great men often chose to be buried, which brought great honour and profit by legacies to them: a curious grave stone was dug up here with a very old date to it by the workmen in making foundations for building here in the year 1748: see the engraved print. This church by the ruins of it appeared to be of large extent, and must have been a magnificent pile of building. It extended from the Were on one side towards Rosemary-lane on the other; one part of the cloister is turned into a hall for the smiths company, and another part for that of the bakers; and the Quakers meeting-house together with the burial ground and other buildings are upon the site of this friery. The inscription on the engraved plate is as follows:

✕ RENNALD Golde: Gift: Ici

Dev: [estu] De Sa Alme. E - - - - - G - - - - - MCC J.

In * 1321, Nicholas Saltford was prior of this friery.

In

* 14 Richard 2d. 16th June, the mayor, &c. made a composition with Nicholas Saltford prior of the friers preachers (near the Were), whereby he granted the prior a feather of water, out of the pipe and conveyance that runs by the Barrs, and had its head near the chapel mill;

In 1530, John Hilfey, the black frier, of Bristol, was made Bishop of Rochester, and was the 66th bishop: he enjoyed it but three years, Stow. William of Worcester says, p. 233. "The length of the choir of the church of friers preachers contains 26 yards or 44 paces, the breadth of the choir 8 yards or 14 paces, the length of the nave of the church 31 yards or 58 paces, its breadth 21 yards or 34 paces, the cloister 40 paces on all 4 sides.—Maurice de Berkeley, Lord of Beverstone castle, died 5th May, 1466, and it appears was buried here, as were (by the martyrology calendar of these friers) John Viel, Esq; first sheriff of Bristol, who died 9th March, Walter Frampton, who died 2d January, Richard Spicer, 1st June, Matthew de Gurnay, one of the founders of this house of friers, 28th August, Lady Maud Denys, October, 1422, Sir William Daubeney, Knight, who lies in the choir: the heart of Robert de Gurnay is buried in this church, Anselm de Gurney lies in the choir, who died 15th November."

The site of this spacious friery was granted, 31st Henry 8th. 1539, to William Chester, Esq;

Within this parish are seven almshouses and an Infirmary, which have succeeded the two frieries, the Franciscan and the Dominican here, to the much greater advantage of the public, and more essential good of individuals. In Lewin's-mead an almshouse was founded about the year 1493, (dedicated it is said to the Holy Trinity) for thirteen persons, by William Spencer, executor to the will of William Canynges, deceased, out of the residuary goods and estate of the said Canynges, and by his direction. He also appointed, 8th Henry 7th. 67l. 6s. 8d. to be lent to the bailiffs of the town for the time being, and 20l. to the mayor, they paying weekly 2s. to the priest (or chaplain) of St. George's chapel on every Saturday, who should immediately distribute the same to the poor of this almshouse, which Mr. Spencer had built. (Vide Great Red Book penes camerar. Bristol, f. 317. and Book of Wills.) At present this almshouse is much out of repair and neglected. The rooms are upon the ground floor, low, and damp. Mr. Thomas Brookes, mayor, 1526, gave a tenement in Tucker-street (called the Salmon) of 6l. per ann. for ever to this house: it is said he charged all his lands in Bristol to pay

C c c

the

and the water of the fountain near the said current by the conduit of the town usq; ad le Key pipe to be repaired by the mayor, and brought into a barrel covered with an arch for their use: and on that condition the prior granted to the mayor his fountain called Pennywell, and the conduit leading from it to the garden of the said friers, paying yearly to the prior of St. James 12d.—Page 178. Great Red Book. In the deeds referred to by Tanner are, pat. 51. Edward 3. m. 36. de fonte vocat. Pennywell, p. 15. Richard 2. m. 25. pro conductu aquæ faciendæ a fonte vocat. Pennywell, 19 Richard 2. pro medietate prisarum piscium regi.

the annuity of 6l. But their chief subsistence now is from weekly pay of the poor from St. Peter's Hospital. Alice Cole, relict of Alderman Richard Cole, by her will, dated 1604, gave to these poor people 6s. 8d. per month for ever; it is paid by the treasurer of Queen Elizabeth's hospital. The churchwardens of All Saints parish for the time being pay them 2s. 6d. per quarter, as the gift of Alderman Cole, (see his will.) Thomas Silk gave them 1l. per annum. The site of this almshouse is described in old deeds (penes me) to be opposite the house of the grey friers, next Point-makers-hall, extending from Lewin's-mead into the water of Froom backwards, and over against the dissolved house of the grey friers. It was granted the 13th of January, 18th Elizabeth, to the mayor and commonalty, at 1s. rent annually.

Another almshouse on St. James's-back is said to be built by William Chester, Esq; mayor, in his life time for six persons. By his will, dated 1558, he gave 6d. per week among them for ever, issuing out of his lands called the Black Friers, within this parish. Ann Colston (1602) gave 4l. per annum to this almshouse. In the year 1557 Mr. Philip Griffith gave to these poor alms persons 20s. per annum, as did (in the year 1582) Thomas Chester, son of William Chester, 4s. per annum. In 1599 Alderman Richard Cole by will gave them 4l. per annum, also Alice his relict in 1604 gave by will 6s. 8d. per month for ever. William Carr, 1547, gave 1l. 1s. 4d. yearly conditionally.

In a lane called the Barr's is also another house for twelve poor persons to inhabit, which was purchased with the poor's money, in the year 1693, by the feoffees of the parish, and rebuilt in 1752.

On the west side of Merchant-street is an almshouse, built A. D. 1701, by the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors of this city, where are nine rooms for the reception of poor men, members of that company, their wives, and widows. Their weekly pay from the Company is 3s. each. On every saint's day, and on every Wednesday and Friday throughout the year, are to be read there the morning prayers of the Church of England.

On the south side of Stoke's-croft was built an almshouse in that memorable time of the South Sea bubbles, A. D. 1722, by Mr. Abraham Hook, merchant; his intention was to have endowed it for poor Protestant Dissenters, but his design never took place. At present there are twelve rooms for the reception of poor decayed women, who are placed in by the trustees of the Presbyterian congregation in Lewin's-mead, who purchased this house.— They live rent free, but have no weekly pay. Here is also an uncertain number of poor boys educated in reading and writing gratis, but their support is from their parents.

At the north-east end of Milk-street is a small tenement where five poor women, maidens or widows, being Baptists, live rent free. Their weekly pay was 1s. 6d. each. This house was given and endowed by Mrs. Elizabeth Blanchard, who had never been married. She died about 1722.

In the year 1740 a neat hospital was built of freestone at the south-west corner of Milk-street, (having over the door these words : " In memory of Mr. Thomas Ridley and Sarah Ridley, being brother and sister never married, erected A. D. 1739.) In pursuance of Mrs. Ridley's will, dated 1716, her trustees with 150l. arising from the interest of 2200l. which she had given, purchased in the year 1735 a piece of ground in fee farm for this building. This hospital is for the support of five old batchelors, and the like number of old maids, being Protestants, to inhabit there during life or till they shall marry. In the year 1742, the men and women were admitted into pay at 3s. each per week. Standfast Smith, apothecary, by will, gave these alms people all a suit of cloathes each at his death, and 10l. per annum for their better support during the life of Hannah Powles, his servant-maid.

The Infirmary, the next charitable institution in this parish, was first thought of in the year 1736, and in November that year a subscription was opened for erecting it ; and in December the first general meeting of the subscribers was held, at which some general rules were offered for the well governing such a society, which at several successive meetings received alterations and additions. Certain buildings and ground in lower Magdalen-lane in this parish being judged a proper place for it were purchased on a lease of 999 years of Mr. A. Sharpe of Dublin, the ground rent being 21l. per annum, and another ground rent of 2l. 16s. per annum. In 1737, 20th June, it was opened for the reception of out-patients, and the 15th December following for in-patients. Persons of all parties and persuasions joined in this public charity, designed to be, what the title over the entrance expresses, CHARITY UNIVERSAL, and calculated for the relief of the human species without distinction. Though it was capable at first of holding only 34 beds, yet as the scheme by voluntary subscriptions had then never been tried out of London, there would have been great reason of doubting its success, had not Mr. Elbridge, comptroller of the customs here, undertaken it almost under his single direction and at his own expence. He lived long enough to see himself its great and general use, and having laid out in his life time in the building and furniture, &c. at least 1500l. he left at his death in 1738 the sum of 5000l. to it. From the year 1738 to the year 1756, 11532 in-patients were admitted and 22343 out-patients. How much it has since improved by additional benefactions, the

annual accounts published by the society sufficiently shew, and the table of benefactors, amongst whom the following should be recorded:

	l.	s.	d.
1742, The Corporation of this city, during pleasure; per ann.	30	0	0
The Society of Merchants, ditto	20	0	0
1745, The Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Thanet	500	0	0
1751, A friend of Paul Fisher	1000	0	0
Richard Percival, Esq;	3000	0	0
1757, Onef. Tyndall, Esq;	500	0	0
1761, Martha Payne	500	0	0
1767, John Heylin, Esq;	500	0	0
1771, Mary Innys	1000	0	0
1772, Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Thanet	500	0	0
1774, Right Hon. Lord Berkeley of Stratton, in the 3 per cent. consols. annuities	1000	0	0
Peter Wilder	500	0	0
John Scandrett	500	0	0
1777, Mary Ann Peloquin	5000	0	0
1781, William Miller, Esq; by his executors	500	0	0
1782, Ann Hort	500	0	0
1786, Elizabeth Bridgeman, New South Sea annuities	1000	0	0
1788, William Turner, of Wraxal, Esq;	1000	0	0

From the year 1738 to 1788 (fifty years) the money given to this charity in particular sums at different times (by benefactors living or at their death by will, and collected at places of public worship occasionally) amounts to the sum of 4555ol. and upwards, besides the yearly contributions and the support it receives from the annual subscribers, citizens and neighbouring gentlemen.

In the year 1787 it was resolved to rebuild this Infirmary upon a larger scale upon the same spot. In 1788 one wing was compleated, the apartments are more spacious and lofty for free air, so necessary to prevent infection and dissipate the noxious effluvia from the diseased crouded together. It will be a noble well-contrived building when finished, though it will be very expensive and break in upon the capital fund of support.

There are also in this parish at present one Roman Catholic chapel on St. James's-back, seven meeting-houses of Protestant Dissenters, one of Anabaptists in Broadmead, one of Independents in Callowhill-street, one Tabernacle of Methodists under the rule of the late Mr. Whitefield's preachers, one of Methodists in the Horse-fair under the rule of Mr. Wesley, one of Moravians

Moravians in Magdalen-lane, one of Quakers in Rosemary-lane, and one of Presbyterians in Lewin's-mead. The two last occupy the very spot and site of the two frieries, the Dominican and Franciscan of old. The Quakers meeting-house is a neat, spacious building, in a quiet, retired situation; and the meeting-house in Lewin's-mead is now rebuilding.

C H A P. XII.

*Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. AUGUSTINE the LESS,
and the CARMELITE FRIERY, its SITE, &c.*

THIS Church was first founded by the abbots of St. Augustin's monastery near it, as a chapel for the accommodation of the inhabitants, who had erected houses and lived without the clausum or precincts of the convent. It had therefore a very early origin, probably soon after the erection of the monastery. It is mentioned in Gaunt's deeds in the year 1240.

But in the year 1480 it was so far decayed as to require to be rebuilt and much enlarged. Under that year William of Worcester, p. 229, thus describes it, *Ecclesia Parochialis, &c. i. e.* "The parish church of St. Augustin newly built and erected this year 1480, contains in length with the two ailes excepting the choir 24 yards. The breadth of the said church contains 6 yards or 18 feet, and each aile contains in breadth 4 yards or 12 feet; in the whole the breadth is 42 feet, as told me by a parishioner. The length of the chancel when built will contain 10 yards."

To enlarge the church the ailes have been lengthened very considerably at their East end not many years ago, but after all it was found very insufficient for the parishioners, many new streets being built in this healthy and pleasant part of the city. Two large side galleries were therefore erected of late, and an organ placed in front at the west end, the gift of Henry Cruger Esq; of this parish, member for the city. Over the chancel on the knots of the fret are these two coats — a heart pierced with 3 nails, with J N — for John Newland, alias Nailheart — the other, in chief two mullets pierced, for the abbot Elliot, — both were great builders and have placed their arms in the
glass.

glafs windows of this chancel, and the prebendal houses as well as in the cathedral — they probably contributed towards the building or repairing of this church.

It is a plain fabric, has three long ailes with a chancel, and is neatly pewed; has a tower built by contributions of the parishioners with four pinnacles at the west end with two bells: it is large enough now conveniently to hold the numerous congregation of this well-inhabited parish: the church is well situated on the side of the College-Green in the middle of a spacious church-yard walled in.

The following have been VICARS of this church of St. Augustin the Less.

PATRONS.

Abbot and convent of St. Augustin's.	1249	William ———, vicar.
	1291 18 Jan.	Serlo de Steynenton.
	1302	Walter Battayle.
	1311 6 July	Peter Tredington.
	1348 7 Nov.	John Besford.
	1361 29 April	Thomas Janekin or Jackson.
	1365 8 Feb.	Richard Cobyngton—Rich. Barnesby
	1369 18 Oct.	John Rovyare.
		John Cook.
	1372 25 Dec.	William Cote.
	1373	John Rovyare.
	1391	John Balle.
	1416 8 March	William Chew—by death of Balle.
	1464 26 Nov.	John Frewen—by death of Chew.
	1469 3 March	Richard Faunt—by death of Frewen.
	1471 22 June	Hugh Lewys, alias Martyn—by death of Faunt.
	1472 31 July	Philip King—by resignation of Lewis. Walter Morrys.
	1488 5 Oct.	John Gryffyth.
	1506 4 Dec.	Edm. Smallwood—by death of Gryffyth.
	1514 29 Nov.	William Wyett—by death of Smallwood.
Dean and Chapter of Bristol.	1541	Henry Collins.
	1546	Walter Ivey, vic.
	1594	William Robinson.
	1604	Clement Lewis.
	1612	Robert Watson, minister.

PATRONS.

Dean and Chapter 1632
of Bristol. 1660

Jacob Read—died Sept. 10.

James Read.

Mr. Wootton, vicar and master of the
grammar-school.

1728

James Taylor M. A.—died 14 Aug. 1734.

1734

John Sutton.

1745

J. Casberd, D. D.

It is remarkable that this church of St. Augustin the Less is not valued in the Lincoln manuscript 1291, but is wholly omitted, perhaps it was included under the cathedral. It was sequestered 1 Edw. 6. see p. 63.

In 1394 Joan Seys gave to the proctor of this parish an estate to have a chaplain to celebrate divine offices for the soul of herself and mother.—In 1405 William Folkynham gave 10l. to the fabric and several tenements to the mayor &c. to have his obiit celebrated here yearly by two chaplains.

The monuments in this church are few.—On the south wall a monument with this: M. S. Elizabethæ (sub marmorio juxta positæ) Johan. Goddard arm. dilectissimæ uxoris quæ obiit 29 Oct. 1705.

At the entrance of the chancel on a white marble stone: H. S. E. Maria conjux—Prichard Gen. Charissima cum 6 natis, quibus hoc posuit mærens pater—Maritus obiit 8. mater 4 Maii (92).

On the north wall of the chancel is a monument and inscription to Robert Cecil son of the Hon. Robert Cecil, brother to the late James Earl of Salisbury; he died 30 Jan. 1707, aged 17. Arms, Barry of ten arg. and azure on 6 shields fable, a lion of the first on each.

Near the vestry door: H. S. E. Robertus Baskerville M. D. natus 33 annos.—Obiit 6 Julii A. D. 1700.

Round a stone thus: "Nathaniel Pownel Registrar of the Diocese of Bristol and Dorset, deceased 28 March 1611."—He was also rector of Wraxal in the county of Somerset, and built the parsonage house there—the following is the inscription:

In memoriam viri optimi prudentissimi
Mariti sui dilectissimi Nathanielis Pownell
Dioces: Bristol & Dorset. Registrarii —
Vix natos luxi, cum mors ingrata mariti
Me jubet in Lachrymas protinus ire novas.
Oh! bis bina mihi servet tua pignora Christus,
Parte aliquâ sine te sic fruar ipse tui.
Priscilla Pownell uxor lugens posuit.

On

Arms, a chevron between 3 lions g. quartered, with a cross fleury between 4 escalops.

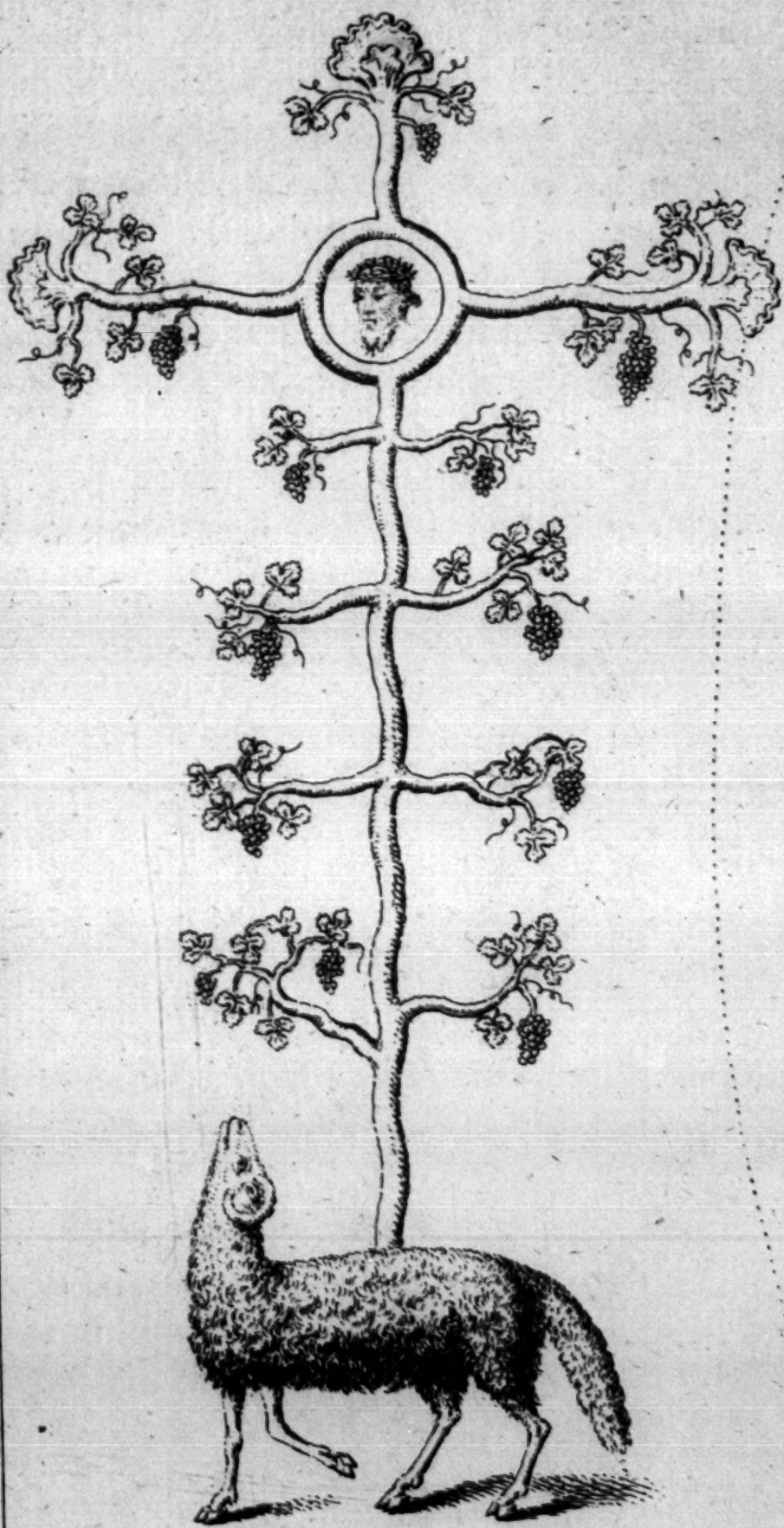
Near this is, "Robert Watson minister, deceased 10 Sept. 1612."—Also a handsome monument to Sir William Daines, with a long epitaph, who died 5 Sept. 1724, aged 68; and to Sir Hugh Owen, who died 13 Jan. 1698, aged 53.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Augustin's Parish.

1594,	Mr. Robert Kitchen, some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave to poor house-holders of this parish for three quarters of a year 10s. per quarter for ever	l.	s.	d.
		30	0	0
1639,	Mr. George Harrington, some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave the like gift as above	30	0	0
1661,	Mr. Francis Glead, some time sheriff, gave 10s. a quarter to a poor house-holder for ever	40	0	0
1659,	Mr. Daniel Vivers gave 10l. the profit yearly thereof to two poor housekeepers not receiving alms for ever	10	0	0
1665,	Mr. James Read, vicar of this parish, gave 10l. to remain to raise 10s. per annum, to be given to ten poor people for ever	10	0	0
1668,	Thomas Farmer, gentlemen, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be given unto poor housekeepers of this parish at St. Thomas-day yearly for ever in coal or bread	50	0	0
1672,	Henry Price, gentleman, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given unto poor housekeepers of this parish at St. Thomas-day yearly for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. John Hayman, of this parish, merchant, gave 22l. the profit thereof to be distributed in bread to the poor weekly for ever	22	0	0
1676,	Captain John Martin, of London, born in this parish, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be distributed weekly to the poor in bread for ever	50	0	0
	Mrs. Mary Boucher, and her daughter, Mrs. Joan Langton, widow, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to fifty-two poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a proportion.			
1684,	Mr. John Read, linen-draper, of St. Nicholas parish, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be distributed to the poor of this parish weekly for ever	20	0	0

1685,

† R·A·Y·H·L·D



2 O L D A : G I S T : I A I : D A V : D A S H L M A

A 2 M A I .



1685,	Mr. Jeremiah Hollway, of this city, merchant, gave 15l.	l.	s.	d.
	the profit thereof weekly in bread to the poor of this parish for ever	-	-	-
		15	0	0
1689,	Sarah the wife of Thomas Langton, Esq; and daughter of Sir William Hayman, Knight, gave 100l. the profit to be distributed upon Christmas-day to ten poor widows of this parish, not receiving alms, for ever	-	-	-
		100	0	0
1701,	Mary Bickham, widow, gave 100l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish in bread every Sunday for ever	-	-	-
		100	0	0
1702,	Sir William Hayman, Knight, gave 4l. yearly for ever, to be distributed equally between eight poor widows of this parish, not receiving weekly alms, on Christmas-day yearly; also 20s. for preaching a sermon yearly for ever on Christmas-day in the morning: these monies together with Mrs. Sarah Langton's gift are payable out of a house in Horse-street	-	-	-
		100	0	0
1706,	Mr. Thomas Beames, of London, gave the inheritance of lands, in the parish of Shepton, in Somersetshire, which now yield 3l. yearly rent clear of taxes, the profit to be distributed in this church to the poor of this parish in good bread and cheese on the first Sunday in every month for ever	-	-	-
		60	0	0
1708,	Sir William Clutterbuck, some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave to this church a gilt plate, weighing 28 ounces, to be used at administration of the sacrament of the bread, and also 40l. in money, the profit thereof to be given in the church to the poor of this parish in bread upon every Lord's-day for ever	-	-	-
		50	0	0
1710,	Mr. George Rogers, of Cork, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish for ever	-	-	-
		10	0	0
1714,	William Swymmer, Esq; alderman, gave 100l. the profit thereof to be distributed yearly to the poor of this parish in cloathing on All Saints-day for ever	-	-	-
		100	0	0
1715,	Thomas Cole, Esq; born in this parish, gave 30l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread for ever	-	-	-
		30	0	0
1716,	Mrs. Sarah Colwell, of this parish, gave to the church-wardens 20l. the interest thereof to be paid to the support of the charity-school yearly, and in failure of such school, to such poor widows as they or their successors shall think fit	-	-	-
		20	0	0

1718, Mr. Samuel Hartnell, of this parish, gave the inheritance of lands in the parish of Henbury, in Gloucestershire, now lett at 33l. per annum, to put three poor boys in Queen Elizabeth's Hospital for ever, two of which are to be out of this parish	-	-	-	-	-	660	0	0
Mrs. Ann Hartnell, his widow, gave 50l. the profit to five poor widows, not receiving alms, of this parish, on Michaelmas-day for ever	-	-	-	-	-	50	0	0
1722, July 30, John Romsey, Esq; late town clerk of this city, gave 20l. the yearly profit of which is to be distributed to the poor of this parish	-	-	-	-	-	20	0	0
Captain John Williams, of Caldy island, in the county of Pembroke, gave 10l. the profit in bread to the poor on the 25th of August for ever	-	-	-	-	-	10	0	0
1723, Mr. Robert Naylor, of this parish, gave the sum of 40s. per annum to be paid unto four poor house-holders of this parish, not receiving alms, on Christmas-day for ever, as the minister and churchwardens shall think fit:	-	-	-	-	-	40	0	0
Mr. Charles Ansforde, of St. Stephen's parish, gave 25l. the profit thereof to five poor housekeepers of this parish, not receiving alms, on the 10th of June for ever	-	-	-	-	-	25	0	0
1722, Anthony Swymmer, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, received from the churchwardens and vestry of this parish 290l. * (as will appear by the vestry-book) with an intent to put more to it and build a house. He dying soon after, his brother Mr. William Swymmer and executor, knowing his promise, gave the south corner house in Orchard-street, nearest to the city hospital and joining to Alderman Beecher's, to the poor of this parish for ever, and the rents thereof to be distributed as the minister and churchwardens for the time being shall think fit; it is let now for 32l. a year on a lease for seven years	-	-	-	-	-	310	0	0

1726

* Viz. Sir William Clutterbuck's gift for	-	-	-	-	40	l.
Mrs. Mary Bickham's gift for	-	-	-	-	100	
William Swymmer, Esq; his gift for	-	-	-	-	100	
And Mrs. Ann Hartnell's gift for	-	-	-	-	50	
					<u>290</u>	

1726, April 18, Mr. John Maskall, of the parish of Lye, gave	l.	s.	d.
10l. the profit thereof to be yearly distributed to the poor of St. Augustine's parish, as the minister and churchwardens of the said parish for the time being shall think fit	10	0	0
Mr. William Raymond, some time of this parish, gave 100l. for the use of the poor, the interest thereof to be distributed as the minister and churchwardens for the time being shall think fit	100	0	0
1739, John Price, Esq; alderman of this city, in his life time gave the sum of 100l. the interest thereof to be distributed yearly on the 15th of June for ever equally between ten poor housekeepers of this parish, not receiving alms, by the vicar and churchwardens for the time being, the first payment to be made June 15, 1739	100	0	0
1740, Mr. Peter Wilkins, late of this parish, left by his will 30l. the interest thereof to be distributed to four poor housekeepers of the said parish, not receiving alms, on Good Friday yearly for ever	30	0	0
And also 20l. to the charity-school in the said parish as long as the said school continues, and on failure thereof to be applied as above	20	0	0
1733, Mrs. Ann Winter gave 50l. to the poor of this parish, the interest thereof to be disposed of at the discretion of the churchwardens for the time being	50	0	0
1777, Captain Prankard gave 100l. to the poor, seamen's widows to be preferred.	100	0	0
1735, William Hilliard, Esq; gave 100l. to the poor of this parish, the interest thereof to be disposed of as the vestry shall direct.	100	0	0
1745, George Packer gave 50l. to the poor of this parish, the interest thereof to be disposed of as the minister and churchwardens shall direct; also 50l. the interest thereof to the charity-school in this parish.	100	0	0
1748, Captain William Chaloner, of this parish, gave 50l. the interest thereof to be disposed of by the churchwardens to eight poor housekeepers, not receiving alms, on the 26th day of January for ever.	50	0	0
1757, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitehead gave 100l. the interest thereof to the poor as the vestry shall direct	100	0	0

- 1762, Mr. Walter Laughher, merchant, of this city, gave 100l. to *l. s. d.*
the minister and churchwardens, the interest thereof to
eight poor widows of this parish, not receiving alms, on
the 7th of December yearly for ever - 100 0 0
- 1736, Mrs. Ann Aldworth, of this parish, gave three tenements
in Frog-lane, the house called the Boar's Head and Sal-
mon being the corner house is one, with two others
adjoining, to the poor of All Saints and this parish, the
25th of December for ever.
- Robert Sandford, of Bristol, Esq; gave 100l. to be placed
out at interest, which was to be paid to four poor house-
keepers, not receiving alms, on St. Thomas-day for
ever - 100 0 0
- 1758, Mrs. Ann Thurston gave by will 300l. to be placed at
interest, the produce thereof to be given to such poor
sick persons as the churchwardens shall think proper ob-
jects at 3s. 6d. per week to each during their illness 300 0 0
- 1764, Mr. Edward Gwatkin gave 50l. the interest to ten poor
housekeepers, not receiving alms, on the 20th of Fe-
bruary for ever - 50 0 0
- 1765, Mrs. Mary Griffith gave 100l. the interest thereof to eight
poor housekeepers on Good Friday for ever - 100 0 0

In this parish was the house of the Carmelite friers. Leland, vol. v. p. 53.
says, " The priory of the Carmelites was the fairest of all the houses of the
frieries in Bristol, and stood on the right ripe of Frome over against the Key."
According to Speed it was founded in the year 1267 by King Edward 1st. perhaps
when Prince of Wales. It was granted after the dissolution by King Henry
the 8th. for the use of the city. According to William of Worcester in
1480 the church of the priory was of the following dimensions: " The nave
or body contains 45 paces, the breadth thereof 25 paces, the tower and spire
or broche is 200 feet, the breadth of the tower is 9 feet each way."

In the 12th of Henry 4th. 1411, Peter Thomas was prior of the frier
Carmelites of Bristol; and in the year 1466 John Milverton, who for opposing
the bishops was committed prisoner to the castle of St. Angelo, Rome, for
three years, wrote many excellent things, at length loaded with grief and
age he died at London, 30th of January, 1496. John Stow, a Bristol Car-
melite, was an ingenious poet soon after the time of Chaucer. John Spine, a
native

native of Bristol, and a Carmelite frier there, became Doctor and Professor of Divinity in Oxford, and a noted preacher, writ sermons for the clergy and solemn disputations, and died in 1454. Frier John Walton, D. D. and prior here the 26th of December, the 13th of King Henry 6th. 1434. Nicholas Cantilupe was a Carmelite frier here, and D. D. of Cambridge, and died at Northampton, 1441, leaving many monuments of his literature: these were in the catalogue of the most celebrated learned men of English birth that were writers of the order of the Carmelites. John Hooper, S. T. P. was a man of great learning, took upon him the habit of the white friers, Bristol, went abroad after the dissolution of monasteries, and getting acquainted with some of the reformers, on his return, May 15, 1550, was made Bishop of Gloucester, and was burnt the 9th of February, 1559, before the west end gate of his cathedral, in the time of Queen Mary.

The site of the Carmelite priory was most certainly where Mr. Colston's school now stands: several very ancient arches are now extant, and its being opposite the Key shews it to be so; and though there is a place called White Friers in Lewin's-mead, yet I rather think it to be an error by confounding it with the Grey Friery acknowledged to be there situated. In old deeds of Redcliff parish I find the hill near Colston's school called Frier's-hill, and a garden there described as on one side the friery.

The old deeds in the custody of the Merchants-hall indeed prove this to be the site of the Carmelite friery. The area and extent of their friery and church on the south-west side thereto belonging was very spacious, and in a deed, October 1, 5th Edward 3d. 1376, mention is made of a cistern near the Carmelites, called the cistern of the pipe of St. John in Broad-street, which goes through Pipe-lane next the site of this friery, which had a feather from the said pipe allotted for its use, which is still continued to Mr. Colston's school.

This Carmelite friery was of large extent occupying all the ground from the Red Lodge and garden down the hill to St. Augustin's-Back, now Mr. Colston's School, and was bounded by Pipe-lane on the west and Steep-street on the east: and besides the house and lodgings for the friers, which Leland celebrates as the "fairest of all the houses of friers;" their church was most elegant and spacious with many chapels in it, and I find in manuscripts many very good families lie buried therein.

Upon a view of frank pledge made the 12th of Hen. 4th. by John Fysher mayor, and John Olyff sheriff &c. for the town, Peter Thomas prior of the Carmelites renounced to the said town $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet and 11 inches of land near
the

the church of the convent of the Carmelites in the south part, which had been granted by Robert Dudbroke late mayor to the prior and his brethren.

The site of this house was granted the 6th of May the 33d of Hen. 8th. by the name and title of "all that house or site of the late dissolved house of Friars Carmelite commonly called the White Friars within the said town of Bristol, and the messuage and house called the Hoopers' Hall with the appurtenances, within the site of the said late house of Friars Carmelites, and for all yards, orchards &c. as well within as near adjoining to the said site, sept, walk, circuit and precinct of the said house of Friars Carmelites heretofore in occupation of David Hobbes &c."

It was purchased at the dissolution together with the Gaunts (vid. p. 134.) by the corporation of the city, who afterwards 10th Eliz. sold the site of the friery to Thomas Chester Esq; but the lodge, the gardens, orchards on Stoneyhill &c. belonging to it were sold to Thomas Rowland merchant, who for the sum of 26l. 13s. 4d. conveyed it in fee the 7th of April the 20th of Eliz. to Sir John Young, whose son and heir Robert Young of Haselborough in the county of Wilts, the 28th of March the 41st of Eliz. sold the Red Lodge and the house on St. Austin's-Back then new-built and called Sir John Young's lower house, in occupation of dame Joan Young his widow, to Nicholas Strangeways of Bradly in the county of Gloucester Esq. — Queen Elizabeth on coming to Bristol kept her court and held a council at this house of Sir John Young; and it was the usual residence of the nobility visiting Bristol. — In 1642 it was inhabited by Sir Ferdinando Gorges, and was offered by him for entertaining the Marquis of Hertford here at that time. It was afterwards purchased by Mr. Lane and converted into a sugar-house, till the pious and charitable Mr. Colston in the year 1708 bought it to erect a school for a master, two ushers, and 100 boys to be cloathed, maintained and instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, and in the church catechism from seven years old till they are fourteen, when they are to be placed out apprentices, he allowing 10l. to each at their going out: the expence of erecting and endowing this school compleatly finished by him in his life time was 40,000l. the estates in lands and ground rents he gave for endowing it produced then 1318l. 15s. 6d. per ann. and the charge of fitting up the school and dwelling-house &c. amounted to about 11,000l. Out of the estate a clergyman is to be paid 10l. per ann. for instructing the boys in the church catechism. — He also gave at his death to continue twelve years after it 100l. per ann. either to those who had been apprenticed from the hospital of St. Augustin's-Back, or for the apprenticing of boys from Temple School by 10l. each, the charge about 1200l.

John

John Purrier Esq; merchant of London, out of a just sense and grateful acknowledgment of the advantage he received in early life from being educated at this school, did in his life time about the year 1782 settle so much money in the funds as would make an addition of 5l. to the 10l. each boy's apprentice fee given by Mr. Colston, making it 15l. and also presented 100 new silver badges worn by the boys, and 100 brass ones

Besides this school or hospital of Mr. Colston, and also the hospital of Queen Elizabeth, (of which see page 376,) this parish can also boast of a very noble charity by Alderman Whitson called the Redmaids Hospital, who by his will dated the 27th of March 1627 left many and great benefactions to the city, (vid. his will hereafter) among the rest an endowment out of his manor of Burnet (formerly belonging to Tewkesbury abby) for the educating and maintaining of 40 maidens, who were some to learn reading and needle-work, some household business and other employment to fit them the better for service; and the first 12 maids chosen out of 12 parishes were by order of common council placed in a house the 4th of October 1634, situate near the College-Green, on the site of the Gaunts Hospital or house of St. Mark's. — In the year 1655 the 3d of April it was referred to the city surveyors to consider about erecting an hospital for maids adjoining to the house hitherto used for that purpose according to Alderman's Whitson's gift, and how the work should be fully carried into execution according to the intent of the founder and for the honor of the city: by which order it appears the endowment had hitherto but partially taken place, or had been discontinued during the rebellion and usurpation of Cromwel, and was now restored, the house or hospital being new-built and enlarged, which is now a very commodious house for the design, in a quiet retired situation, and is managed with great prudence and œconomy to the relief of families, lasting advantage to the poor girls and general good of the community.

The settlement of this charity was long in agitation betwixt the seoffees of Alderman Whitson and the corporation; at last the city agreed to add 30l. per ann. to Mr. Whitson's endowment of the manor of Burnet near Cainsham then let at 90l. per ann. and in lieu of monies the personal estate of Mr. Whitson left to the chamber for good uses within the city and paid into the city stock, 40l. per ann. more was agreed to be advanced towards the new building and additional endowment of the Red-maids Hospital.

On the 2d of September 1659 Mrs. Mayores and Joan Hobson widow were appointed visitors of the maids hospital, with these instructions, 1. To visit two days in each month in person the said children. 2. To make due enquiry
into

into their bodily health. 3. To observe their cleanliness and convenient change, so that they be kept neat and free from vermin. 4. To enquire into the wholesomeness and proportion of their diet. 5. To take due notice whether they are taught to read English and employed in work that may be for their future preferment. 6. To see that two of them be every week employed about household affairs. 7. To take care that the vacant places be supplied by direction and approbation of the mayor and aldermen. 8. On all occasions to represent to the mayor and aldermen what is amiss that remedy may be applied. G. Hellier mayor, Tolfey book II.

C H A P. XIII.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. MICHAEL.

THIS church is a rectory dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, situated on a hill of great height, on the north side of Bristol. The founder of it was probably Robert Fitzhaymon, who endowed his abby of Tewksbury with this church. Two large figures in painted glass in the east window over the communion table were some years past taken down and destroyed, with the following inscription without date: "Orate pro animabus Johis Burlington et Johannæ Uxoris ejus qui Johannes et Johanna istam fenestram fecerunt et speciales erant benefactores hujus ecclesiæ." In the year 1193 it was in the presentation of the monks of the abby church of Tewksbury, as appears by the confirmation of Henry Bishop of Worcester of all the benefactions which Simon, bishop of the same diocese, had granted to the church of Tewksbury, the monks thereof having then lately presented Richard Cumblan to it. In the year 1291 this benefice was in the archdeaconry of Gloucester and deanry of Bristol, and its yearly value then taken was six marks and a half, and it was subject to an annual payment of four shillings for the prior of St. James's part or share.

At the dissolution of religious houses the presentation of this church (with many others in Bristol, appendages and parcel of the abby of Tewksbury) were for 667l. 7s. 6d. sold off by letters patent the 35th of the said King to Henry Brayne,

Brayne, Esq; who became patron and proprietor of this and the other churches in Bristol. And as this was then subject to a yearly rent or pension of four shillings, the same became payable to the said Brayne and his heirs for ever, and now to the corporation. The rector of St. Michael for the time being now pays an yearly stipend of 2s. to the dean and chapter of Bristol, which was formerly paid to the monastery of St. Augustin.

The church consisted of two ailes and is but small, scarcely sufficient to accommodate the parishioners. The tower is at the west end, from which it extends in length to the then altar 73 feet, the aile on the south side including the old vestry room at the east end was about 73 feet. The height of the roofs (which were of timber plastered) was about 26 feet, supported with 4 freestone arches and 3 pillars, and was covered with stone tiles. The breadth of the two ailes 37 feet. Before the north and south doors were porches, over the south door the vestry room.

William of Worcester says, " In length it contains 46 paces or 26 yards, in breadth 10 yards or 20 paces, the square tower of the new belfry contains a square of four sides each 5 yards without the wall, the south porch of the church is 11 feet long and 10 broad." The tower is strong, and at top has freestone battlements with four pinnacles of a moderate height, and is furnished with a peal of six bells, which were cast and put up by a subscription and pound rate in the year 1739. On the east side of the tower over the roof is a niche wherein is fixed a figure of an abbot, or as some imagine that of St. Michael the patron saint.

Some years past the worthy benefactor Edward Colston, Esq; gave 50l. for the repair of this church.

It was sequestered on the 1st of April in the 1st year of Edward 6th. 1547. (See page 63.) The clear yearly value in the King's Books was 5l. 18s. 11d. Yearly tenths were 12s.

In the year 1749 this parish consisted of 380 houses which were rated to the support of the poor that year 227l. at about 11d. in the pound: but the poor rate is since greatly increased, as well as the number of inhabitants.

In the year 1774 a survey was made of the fabrick, and it was found so decayed in the walls and roof that it would require 985l. 19s. at a moderate computation to put it in good repair. It was therefore judged better to build a new church entirely for the better accommodation of the increased parishioners, which was done by subscription of the inhabitants and others, being 77 feet long and 62 broad, with a vault or croud under it for a place of burial: this was 20 feet broader on the north and 5 on the south side than the

former church: the Corporation gave 300*l.* and the Merchant's-Hall 150*l.* which with the sums collected amounted to upwards of 2200*l.* the foundation was laid with great formality the 4th of July 1775, and the church was opened the 22d of June 1777. The old tower is preserved.

The rector chiefly depends on the voluntary benevolence of the parishioners.

The annual rent of his parsonage house at the south gate of the church-yard	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
- - - - -	15	0	0
For monthly prayers &c. at Forster's chapel, paid by the corporation of Bristol per ann.	10	0	0
For a small house at the north gate of the church-yard per ann.	5	0	0
For Queen Ann's bounty, it being settled in two chief rents issuing out of two houses in St. James's church-yard, Bristol	7	0	0
For tythe of the two parks	1	18	0
For a paddock	0	4	0
For two sermons	2	2	0
Ditto Mr. Peter Davis on the 1st of March in the evening	1	10	0

Which with voluntary contributions &c. amount in all to about 200*l.* per annum.

The present patrons are the corporation of Bristol, who purchased the same in the year 1627 of Sir Charles Gerrard Knight, who married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Charles Somerset Knight, and grand daughter of the aforesaid Henry Brayne Esq.

The present incumbent is the Rev. George Wilkins A. M.

A LIST of the RECTORS from old deeds and the registers of Worcester.

PATRONS.

The abbot and	1193	Richard Cumblain was rector.
convent of	1282	Robert de la More priest.
Tewkesbury.	1286	13 kalend. June, Wm. de Bleyngel.
	1308	8 kalend. Nov. Wm. de Bath, accolit.
	1309	7 id. May, Ralph de Baketon.
		Helia was chaplain there.
	1313	4 kalend June Johannes de Wygorniâ priest.
	1334	11 non. Oct. John Wycheforde.
	1360	11 Dec. Peter de Dodmancote clerk by resignation of Thomas Southwel.
	1361	15 Feb. Symon de Collewell priest.

PATRONS.

PATRONS.

1369 4 Dec. Richard de Marchynton priest by resignation of William Allen.

1376 5 July John Pitwell.

1402 12 Oct. John Hogkere by change with John Chamberlain rector of this church.

1405 9 May, John Hoy.

1411 31 Aug. John Boure.

1420 9 Nov. Philip Bristow by change with Thomas Fauconberg the last incumbent.

1460 17 May, Master David Cokland by resignation of John Harptree.

1464 12 July, John Free by the death of Cokland.

1465 24 Sept. John Berfey by resignation of John Free.

1470 6 Oct. Thomas Howell rector of St. Maryport, by change with John Berfey.

1483 1 Aug. Thomas Galcon by resignation of Leonard Davy the last rector.

1512 6 April, Thomas Hall by resignation of Alexander Overton the last rector, reserving a pension of 10 marks.

1523 3 April, John Morys by resignation of Thomas Hall, reserving 40s.

1524 4 Feb. Thomas Nichols.

1526 4 Sept. John Fyfhe A. M.

1648 Philip Perry rector, died 17 Feb. 1649 and was buried here.

Mayor and 1665 Mathias Bradie rector, buried here 22 Dec. 1676.

Corporation of 1677 John Rainstorp rector, died 1 May 1693.

Bristol. 1693 Samuel Paine rector, buried here 20 April 1721.

1721 James Taylor rector, buried at St. John's March 1722.

1722 Samuel Jocham rector, buried here May 30, 1743.

1743 Rumney Penrose rector, died 19 July 1749, buried at Bedminster.

1749 John Culliford rector.

1766 Samuel Seyer M. A. rector.

1776 George Wilkins M. A. rector.

M O N U M E N T S.

On the north wall was formerly a brass plate, since stolen away, with the following inscription :

Mors spernit atra gloriam B

“ Pray for the dead, for thou must dye Jehu mercy.”

At one end of this monument this coat—parted perpale arg. and G. a bend counterchanged—for Chaucer of Woodstock t. Ric. 2.

A monument by the church door with a Latin inscription :—“ To Nicolas Hill a lawyer, who died Nov. 1597, and to his wife Dorothy who died Nov. 1599.”

In the further north window of the chancel, a table thus inscribed :

Dominus { dedit.
abstulit.

Anna filia Richardi Ash ætatis suæ tertio, obiit 24 Maii

With the figure of an ash tree with a small branch, and dated 1645.

This Ash { In May } cut down { Sprouts the same day
was then } yet lives for aye.

On the grave-stone :

Rakd. up in ashes here doth } Ash { remain
In hope that ashes shall be } { again.

Ashes to Ash return shall and arise,

Which Ash in ashes here expecting lies.

On the floor is a stone inscribed to Mr. Richard Ash merchant, who died 21 Aug. 1666, aged 70, 4 of his children, and Margery his wife, who died 23 Jan. 1693, aged 79.

Under the communion table :—“ Samuel Paine hujus ecclesiæ rector obiit 18 Jan. ætat 57. 1721-22.”

“ Thomas Percivall obiit 1741.”

“ Thomas Percivall eldest son of Joseph Percival merchant, died 16 June 1741, aged 20.”

There is at the side of the altar a magnificent monument to Joseph Percivall Esq; with a great but just character: he died 28 June 1764.

On a brass plate was :—“ Philippus Perrey hujus ecclesiæ pastor obiit 17 calend Feb. 1649.

Philippus, filius Philippi, matris amicæ

Primitias debitas qui rediere Deo.”

On a stone :—“ William Stretton sen. departed this life the 28 June 1694, aged 37.

On

On a monument in the south aisle was the following inscription:

Hic juxta situs est Thomas Alvy generosus equestri familia jurorum in comitatu Wilt: oriundus; qui cum innumeras fere hujus, nonnullas etiam prioris seculi vicissitudines expertus esset; Jacobum regem triplici unitum regno vidisset; Carolum primum barbaramente divisum plorasset; expirantes leges, semimortuam ecclesiam, dominantem rempublicam, prementem tyrannidem horruisset: auspicante tandem Deo, Carolum secundum primi filium redivivum, leges et ecclesiam repullulantes grate salutasset: ingruente tandem improborum consilio repetendâ palluisset ruinâ, aliorum sæpius composuisset, lites suas vero frugaliter consulisset, vivendo quasi fessus cælum maturus petiit: perge viator sortesque humanas humanus meditaris, obiit Jan. 24 A. D. 1682 et ætatis 90.

In English thus:

Hard by is placed Thomas Alvy gentleman, sprung from a knightly family of the Jurors in the county of Wilts: who after he had experienced the almost countless changes of this and some also of the former age, had seen King James joined to a treble kingdom, had bewailed Charles the 1st. barbarously separated from it; had dreaded the state expiring, the church half dead, a commonwealth ruling, tyranny oppressing, at length by the favour of God having gratefully saluted King Charles the 2d. the son of the 1st. on his return, the church and state beginning again to flourish; the council of the wicked at length getting into place having grown pale at the return about to be repeated, after he had often settled the disputes of others, but sparing in council for his own as if tired of living, in a ripe age he went to heaven: Go passenger and as a man meditate on man's condition. He died the 24th of January 1692, in the 90th year of his age.

In the south aisle:—"Anno 1743 obiit Samuel Jocham A. M. hujus ecclesiæ rector anno ætatis 50."

Near this:—"Expectat resurrectionem Sara Samuelis Jocham hujus ecclesiæ rector amabilis uxor, mulier omni virtute instructa, apta vivere, parata mori. obiit 29 Maii 1736 ætatis 45."

Near the vestry a handsome monument with a long Latin inscription:—"To John Ridout Esq; of Dorsetshire, who died 1670 the 26th of August, in his grand climacteric.—Arms, parted per pale arg. and gules a griffin rampant counter-changed.

Many of these monuments and inscriptions have been destroyed in rebuilding this church.

BENE-

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Michael's Parish.

- 1586, Mr. John Carr gave 10l. per annum to the poor, to be paid by the treasurer of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital for the time being.
- 1594, Mr. Robert Kitchen gave 30s. per annum, to be paid by the chamberlain of Bristol, to three poor burgessees of this city, or to three poor widows of burgessees, on the three following days, viz. 10s. to one on the third Saturday after Lady-day, 10s. to another on the tenth Saturday after Midsummer, and 10s. to another on the first Saturday after Christmas; the three persons to be nominated by the mayor and aldermen and churchwardens and overseers of the poor of St. Michael's parish.
- 1639, Mr. George Harrington gave 30s. per annum, to be paid by the chamberlain in the same manner as that of Mr. Kitchen's.
- 1634, Mr. George White gave 5l. per annum to the poor of said parish. It is charged on a house near the Red Lodge, as may appear by the Book of Wills in the chamber of Bristol, which house was late in the possession of Capt. John Hitchens, and since Henry Woolnough and Mrs. Henvil. This is received and paid by the senior churchwarden of St. Werburgh.
- 1639, Mr. Thomas Clement gave 20s. per annum to the poor. It is charged on a house in Broadmead, late Mr. Baugh's, payable by Mr. Abraham Pope.
- 1640, Mr. Thomas Harrington gave 52s. per annum, to be given to the poor in weekly bread, to be paid half yearly by the chamberlain.
- 1660, Mrs. Joan Langton gave 50s. per annum, to be given to the poor in weekly bread. This is charged upon a garden opposite the parsonage house, late in the tenure of Mr. Anthony Hodges, the lease of which when expired comes to St. Michael's parish.
- 1661, Mr. Francis Glead gave 10s. a quarter to a poor house-holder, not receiving weekly alms. This is payable out of a house in High-street, late Slooper's and now Sedon's. The persons that are to receive the said charity are to be nominated by the churchwardens of the said parish, and no person to receive the said gift more than once in one year. The feoffees are those of Christ Church in Bristol. It is paid by the vestry-clerk.
- 1661, Mr. Thomas Farmer gave 50l. which purchased an annuity of 50s. per annum

annum for ever of Edward Smith, currier, charged on and payable out of a house in Lewin's-mead, and now received of the widow of John Smith, and the same to be given in bread or coal.

1671, Mrs. Elizabeth Farmer gave 50l. which purchased from the chamber of Bristol three fee farm rents, viz. one of 26s. 8d. charged on and payable out of a certain house at the head of the Key belonging to Mr. Charles Harford, and 24s. charged on and payable out of a certain house called the Tower of the Key, another of 5s. 6d. charged on and payable out of a house in Christmas-street. This is disposed of to the poor in weekly bread according to the donor's direction.

Mr. Edward Cox gave 10l. to the several parishes in this city, for coal in the month of December, of which the mayor for the time being used to send 17s. 6d. to this parish by the senior serjeant, but by some means it is now reduced to 15s. a year.

1685, Mr. Jeremiah Hollwey gave 15l. the profit thereof to be given yearly in bread or coal for ever.

1689, Mrs. Elizabeth Wiggins gave 10l. the profit thereof to be given to the poor in bread every first Sunday in the several months, householders to be preferred.

1690, Mr. Thomas Stratton, senior, gave 25l. the profit thereof to be given weekly in bread for ever.

These three last-mentioned gifts, with 10l. that remained undisposed of in Mr. Richard Gravet's year of churchwardenship, being part of the annual gift of Mr. Carr and Mr. White, were by an order of vestry paid into Mr. George Skuse the 1st of January, 1704, for one annuity or chief rent of 50s. per annum, charged on and payable out of two houses in Horse-street, next above Skinner's Slip.

1693, Mr. James Seward gave 40s. per annum to be paid at Christmas to eight poor widows 5s. each, they not receiving alms, to be nominated by the churchwardens, &c. and that no person is to have the benefit of the said gift two years together. This 40s. is charged on and payable out of a house over the gate at the lower end of Small-street in Bristol, and is paid by James Seward.

1690, Mr. Eusebius Brooke gave 7l. per annum to the poor, to be disposed of at the discretion of the churchwardens, &c. This is charged on
and

and payable out of the building in a ground near the Royal Fort called Tinkers Close, which is now leased out for lives, or years which when expired an addition of 3l. per annum will be made to the above 7l. It is paid by the tenants or by Robert Holmes, Esq; Mrs. Jane Mixon gave 10l. Alexander James, Esq; 10l. Mr. Benjamin Willoughby, 5l. With this 25l. and the interest of Mr. Mixon's and Mr. James's, which was made up 5l. more, with part of Mr. Carr's gift money, was purchased of Jacob Knight, Esq; one fee farm rent of 13s. 4d. payable out of a tenement in Baldwin-street, now in the possession of Thomas Cother Smith, paid by Lydia Gregory, and one other tenement fee farm in Back-street of 20s. 4d. which is to be given to the poor in bread (to be paid by Mary Lawrence) on every Christmas-day, as the gifts of Mrs. Jane Mixon and Alexander James, Esq; The other 5s. is to be given every 29th of September in two-penny loaves of bread immediately after the sermon is ended to thirty poor people of this parish, who have been present all the time of divine service and the sermon that evening, and behaved themselves decently all the time, as the gift of Mr. Benjamin Willoughby.

Richard Haynes, Esq; gave 10s. per annum, to be paid to the minister of this parish for preaching a sermon every 29th of September in the evening. It is chargeable on and payable out of two acres of ground in Charlton Field, in the county of Gloucester, being part of the estate of him the said Richard Haynes.

1664, Joseph Jackson, Esq; in the year 1664 gave unto the poor of this city 110l. which was put into the chamber on the security of the common seal of the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty, and continued there until the 21st of January, 1707, without any distribution of the interest, it never being demanded, which the common council at that time taking into consideration did then order that the said seal should be taken up and a new one given for 300l. in lieu of the 110l. and the interest of it from the year 1664, and that the chamberlain should pay every 22d of January 12l. for the interest thereof; and in the year 1712 it was agreed by the mayor and aldermen that it should be paid to the officers of the five parishes or places following, viz. St. Michael's, 40s. Castle Precincts, 4l. St. Philip's, 40s. St. Thomas, 40s. St. Mary Redcliff, 40s. to be by them distributed in the same manner as Mr. Kitchen's and Mr. Harrington's

Harrington's gifts, according to the directions of the said benefactor to the poor of the said five places or parishes, viz. 10s. apiece to a poor burghers or widow of such.

Mr. Anthony Hodges gave a piece of Ground at Shirehampton, the profit thereof to be distributed in bread every year on the 11th and 17th days of June to the poor of this parish.

Richard Gravett gave 50s. a year (and at the request of George Gravett his son, deceased, 50s. a year more) for ever, to be disposed of and laid out as followeth, viz. 3l. 6s. thereof for coal and 22s. for bread; 3s. worth of which coal and one 12d. loaf is to be given to each to ten poor inhabitants of the parish of St. Michael, who are or have been tradesmen, artificers, or mariners, not receiving weekly alms, or to the widows of such; but if no such are to be found who need or desire it, the number is to be made up with labourers or their widows (those who frequent God's holy worship and attend his ordinances in the church to be preferred.) This is to be given on the 15th of November yearly. The 5l. per annum is charged on payable out of a house in Christmas-street, late in the tenure of Mr. Standing, apothecary.

Mr. Thomas Morgan gave 50l. to the poor which is to be disposed of at the discretion of the parish officers.

Mr. William Cook gave 10l. to be put out at interest at 10s. per annum, which is to be laid out every Christmas in sixty two-penny loaves, and given to the poor of said parish as the parish officers shall think fit.

1625, Bartholomew Russell, blacksmith, by his will dated the 3d of February gave his house wherein he then dwelt in Horse-street (after the death of Agatha his wife) to the feoffees of the parish of St. Michael, the rent thereof to be yearly given to the poor, and also to repair the said parish church when need should require it. This house was lately occupied by Samuel Jones or — Stephens.

The house built on the triangular ground in Steep-street, near and adjoining to Trenchard-lane, now in the several tenures of John Roach, — Sturton, and the widow Teague, belongs to this parish church, but not known for what particular use given.

Richard Gravett, Esq; paid into the hands of the Reverend Samuel Jocham, rector, and those of the churchwardens of this parish, 10l. interest thereof to defray the expence of those who shall meet agree-

able to his deed of settlement, wherein twenty-two poor people are by them to be nominated for his gift the 15th of November and the 18th of December for ever. And at the same time for them to inspect the Green Book to see if it be distributed according to the appointment of the donor.

Mrs. Anne Longman, widow, gave 195l. to the poor of this city, of which this parish hath a part.

Within this parish were of old two religious houses; one dedicated to St. Mary, consisted of nuns under a prioress, the other to St. Bartholomew, called the house or hospital of St. Bartholomew, consisted of friers or brothers and sisters; the nuns also it appears had a rector and some friers with them. John is called rector hospitalis Mariæ Magdalensæ in Gaunt's deeds about the year 1300.

The foundress of this nunnery to St. Mary Magdalen * was Eva daughter of Godiva, sister to William the Conqueror. It is not certain whether she built it whilst the wife or widow of Robert Fitzharding.

History informs us that she largely endowed this house of nuns with lands and tenements, and became the first prioress thereof, † and so continued to the time of her death, in the year 1173. She was buried next her Lord, between the abbot's and prior's cell in the monastery of St. Augustin. The site of this house was pleasant and it extended from the King David inn on the south up the hill northward adjoining to a lane called the Montague's, from thence up the said lane eastward to a lane opposite the Fort-lane leading down into Magdalen-lane southward, and then up the said lane westward to the King David inn.

The number of inhabitants that resided within its walls, or the regulations of this house are uncertain. The 21st of Edward the 3d. 1347, Agnes de Gloucester was prioress thereof and Brother John was rector, and the Bishop of Worcester was patron. The following account is given by Leland of its suppression in the reign of King Henry 8th. or the next succeeding reign. He says, "On the north side of the town of Bristol stood St. Magdalen's house of nuns, which was suppressed of late years, when such as were under 300 marks of rent by the year were put down, and that it was valued the 26th of Henry 8th. at 21l. 11s. 3d. per annum, and granted the 31st of the said King (1540) to Henry Brayne, Esq; and John Marsh." The site of it is

* Leland's Itin. vol. vii. p. 72. Prynne, iii. 714. and vide pat. 4. Edw. 3d. (1330) p. 1. m. 40. vel. 41.

† Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 351. vide Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, p. 261.

is now in the possession of the family of — Jones, Esq; at Stowey, in the county of Somerset. In the 1st year of King Edward 6th. 1547, this house was sequestered to the King's use, p. 134.

We are much obliged to the ingenious John Warburton, Esq; Somerset herald, for communicating his manuscript of the particular sums arising from the sale of many religious houses in all parts of England, amongst which are these lands and tenements, viz. in Weston St. Laurence, Filton, and Henbury, in the county of Gloucester, which was parcel of the late priory of St. Mary Magdalen, near Bristol, &c. as by the King's letters patent under the great seal of England more plainly appear.

This nunnery and hospital being endowed with the following lands, &c. was sold off the 37th Henry 8th. 1546, viz. in Westbury, South Mead, at Iron Acton a tenement, at Berton Regis a messuage and meadow, at Codrington lands called Magdalen-croft, at Filton a meadow, at Laurence Weston six acres.

In the year 1284 Bishop Giffard of Worcester visited the nuns (moniales) of the Magdalen house at Bristol, where he found nothing to be amended, except that the vicar of St. Michael's detained from the nuns for three years 2s. and 2lbs. of pepper and cummin yearly rent, to the restitution of which he was condemned by the bishop, who preached there: his text was "*Filiæ tibi sunt, serva corpus illarum,*" &c. *Eregistris ecclesiæ Wygorn.*

P R I O R E S S E S.

1347, Agnes de Gloucester. Giff. f. 210. a.

1349, 27 March, Maud de Littleton, a nun, was set over this house as prioress. Wolfst. v. 1. 146.

She resigned 21 July, 1356, and the bishop committed the care of this house to Julian, a sister nun, during its being void. Brian, v. 1. 18. b.

1363, 2 August, Margery Longe, one of the nuns there. Barnet, f. 27.

1369, 29 October, Elizabeth Wodecroft. Lyn. f. 20. b.

Alice Claybile died prioress, and was succeeded by

1421, 4 December, Joan Walys, a nun of the same house. Morgan, v. 1. f. 66.

Catherine Brown died prioress, and was succeeded by

1520, 4 March, Eleanor Graunte, a nun of the same house, moribus undique ornata et virtutibus insignita.

There was another religious house called the Hospital of St. Bartholomew the Apostle for the support of men and women. It stood at the west end of Lewin's-mead, near the Grey Friars house, and the garden of it extended backwards and lay over against the hospital of St. Mary Magdalen on the hill of St. Michael.

This like many other similar foundations was in ancient times both a priory and an hospital under the government and direction of some regular canons: for in William of Worcester, p. 208, it is styled "*quondam prioratus &c.*" *i. e.* formerly a priory of canons regular founded by the ancestors of Lord de la Ware, and now an hospital of poor persons. And p. 252, "an hospital house for the poor with a church formerly of canons of St. Augustin, and now an hospital house for support of poor persons in the church of St. Bartholomew." The following account from a parchment writing under the name of T. Rowley calls it a priory—and it is so far confirmed in this by William of Worcester's manuscript, which was never seen by Chatterton.

The Rolle of Seyncte Bartholemeweis Priorie.

In the year of our Lorde Chryste M.CCLV Syre Gawyne * de Rokeshalle & Syre Johnne de Toedmage founded thys pryorie to the honore of Seyncte Bartholomewe: itte lyeth onne the syde of Seyncte Mychaels Hylle, whych parte there lyeynge ys the pryorie for twentie Austynians ande pryncipall havynge a long courte to Froome Gate ande the arrowe toweres whyche there bee. Atte the ende of the courte ys the Lazarre howse for thylke who havethe the leprous brennyng. Everich abbotte hydertoe haveth encreased this house ande meynthe knights & cytyzens yeven londes & monies thereto, so that even now the place ys full pleasaunte to beholde. The gate is hyghe botte the modde maie ryse to the annoie thereof. Above itte on eyther syde bee imageries, the one of the vyrgyne & chylde & the other of a warrioure and moche ensemyng to bee for Johnne de Barklie who ybuylden the gate & yeven xx markys ande a tenemente there toe shryve the leperes wythe 10 markys bie the yeere to a fadre of the blacke frierie to shryve the lepeirys and 50 markys in lyke tyme to dresse ande docke theyre sorres, sayinge, lette us cure both spryte & bodye. From the yate we passe toe the ache chambre where attendeth foure mastre barboure surgeonnes under the behylte of the Austynian Frere aforesayde—This havethe the use of the rolles whyche here bee yeven some bye Johane de Barkelie & others bie Syrre Walterre Derbye
and

* One Sir Galfrid de Wrokeshale was 6 Edw. 1. 1278, at the perambulation of the bounds of Menedip, as appears by a deed in Adam de Domerham, v. 2. p. 685.

and Syr John Vyel * knyghtes & citizens & manie others: the beste rolles of the whole bee Gylbertines † rolle of Ypocrates:—The same fryarres booke of brennyng, ‡ Johan Stowe of the cure of mormalles § & the waterie leprosie—the rolle of the blacke mainger: F. Lewis a Wodefordes booke of ailes—the booke of tymes & Phantasies & Chrylmas maumeries bie F. Gualter de Tockington—further other maumeries & plaies of myracles bie meinie wythe somme of Roberd de Chedder in Frenche & Englysh, one as plaied at comitatynge the cyttie the whyche is a quainte peece of wytte & rhyme: These bee alle the bookes ynne the ache Camberre & of the reste of the Lazar house bee cellis & beddis for the Lazars, beeynge manie in number, the onlie roome else ys the halle where the pryoure summoneth councel of Bredrenne of phyfique blacke whyte grey & odhers: whanne some doughtie worke ys to bee donne on a Lazar, and the mastre barber surgeonne recevyth theyre order, the fryeres havethe for attendaunce iij groates fothe fyttynge as was lefte bie the wordhie knyghte Syr Johan Somerville—leste hurte ande scathe bee done to the lepers, the whych mote bee avoyded; the sayings & notifes of the freeres bee wrote yn a rolle from the whych the barbour surgeons learn muche ande none botte those of Seynte Bartlemews maye loke thereynne: by whych meanes the barboure surgeonis wyll bee servytours there wythoute paye to gayne knowleche of aylimentes & theyr trew curis. ||

Here

* These are mentioned in the charter of Edw. 3d. as commissioned to fettle the bounds of the city.

† This author is mentioned in Chaucer as a skilful phyfician: his real name was Raufe de Blondeville, called Gilbertine from being of the order of St. Gilbert.

‡ Whether this be the leprosy, some burning eruptive skin, or the lues venerea has been disputed.—Becket surgeon in a treatise on the Brenning of the ancients makes it the latter.

§ Chaucer says, “on his skin a mormalle had he & a blacke manger.”

|| It is to be admired how few books of phyfic were in the library of this hospital—but our wonder ceases when we consider how few Leland met with in that visit he made to the religious houses before the dissolution—in some houses were the following phyfic books found:

V. 4. Lel. Coll. p. 46. In Bibliotheca Ramsey Cænob. “Practica Gilberti Anglici.”

P. 273. Chirurgia Joannis de Baro. de Cænob. Albani Oribasius.

P. 264. Libellus Galeni—Galenus de Morbo—Liber de febribus ex Arabico translatus Constantino Monacho—de Bathe Vulnerarius a surgeon—Leprosus Sax. hreofrig.

P. 17. Tabulæ Ludovici de Carlion Doctoris Medicinæ de eisdem rebus—Scriptæ Londini 1482—Rogerus Bacon de Erroribus Medicorum—Volumen Magistri Ricardi de re Medica—Compendium totius medicinæ seu practica Gilberti Anglici—Gull. Holm. Franciscanus de simplicibus medicinis justum volumen—Fuit deflorator medicorum, vixit 1415. Ægidius de plantis. Ricardus Medicus de signis. Plinius secundus de re medica. Oribasius de simplici medicinâ Antidotarius Nicolai de re medica—Expositio super libros aphorismorum autore Gilberto Anglico & Compendium Medicinæ.

Here bee twa wyndows of payntid glase : & fortie seatis for the Freeres wythe the walles carven & peyncted, beeynge in all fulle faire & of goode handiwurcke. From the Lazar house to the pryourie bee a large cloystered courte wyth windowes thereto. Inne the middest of thys cloyster bee the bochorde, wyth fulle mainte bookes thereyn yeven bie dyvers wordie knyghtes whose armoures bee there to bee seene. The rolles bee fyrste—a texte Hebraike & Englyshe wyth stoddes of goulde, the notes some bie Bradwardin, some by pryoure Walter de Lofynge & here bee the psaulmes in godelie verse bie Johan Stowe the Brystoe Carmelyte—alsoe mainte bookes of the Trynitie emprovyng what Mastre Canynge & myselfe thynkethe, yatte the “hallie spryte ys yatt whyche gyveth wyfdom & holdethe up † heaven & earthe & lyfe & brethe bie the powers of kynde whych spryngeth from that allene. The rolle of Symon de Gaunte de principio—patterne of Seyncte Luke—Turgottes rolles. Bede, Afferius, Ingolphe—Meinte rolles of lyttle worthe to Goddis servyce. Scripture myracles & maumeries—The legende of the Earles of Gloucestre—plaies of the Earles of Gloucestre bie Johan Stowe fulle of wytte & godelie wordes.

Legende of the knyghtes of the Swanne, twa plaies of the fame by Johan Stowe—Legende of the Seynctes. Maumeries of the lyke by the Freeres of the grey ordre wyth other Maumeries by divers wryters.

Inne the bochorde bee also peyncteynges & there bee one onne the walle of Brystowe ynnne the reyn of W. Rouse as walled bie Geoffrie Byshoppe of Constance & a drawynge of Geoffreis Logge & walls of the fame, wythe dreeynges of Robert of Gloucesterre his castle ande eke dreeynges of a spyre & endeynge botte of a chyrche the whyche I have ne seene butte ytte mote bee made for the pryourie toure whyche havethe no spyre to be putte onne the samme—the spyre bee a quaynte wurcke, the botte lyke that of Westeburie ybuylden by Mastre Roberte Canynge; others bee alsoe yn this bochorde—a small rolle of elf-lockes bye John Stowe emproveynge them not to be the worke of sprytes as meynt do owlyfhlie enthyncke—From the bochorde come wee to the chapele where bee meynthe naumeries as depycted ynnne the rolles hereon of Syr Gawyne de Rokeshall & others: inne the wyndowe bee manie hatchmentes in heraldique manner, the whych bee alsoe here

† That is, the natural agents called here the powers of kind, aft by and under the direction of the Holy Spirit the inspirer of wisdom, scriptural wisdom.—It is said that J. Milverton and others held, that God governed the world &c. without any natural agents: but Rowley speaking of them says, “theie eider meane Godde be the powers of kinde or natural agents or theie know not what themselves meane.”

here dreene. Here bee toe a quainte peece of cosier wurcke bie a nonne of Tuckesburye of the lyfe of Seyncte Barptholomew. From the chapele to the friourie is a small space. The friourie haveth little thereyn that is of worthe, but the cellis bee dernie & well yroughten in wode—but the buyldynge be not compyghte.

Thus endeth the rolle of Seyncte Bartholomew & here folleweth a lyfte of the pryoures.

M.C.C.OV. Richard the broder of Syr Gawyn de Rokeshall.

M.C.C.XXII. John the chanter who fyrste had the fetyve amerheaded crofier, whych crofier bee yn the revetrie havynge depycted thereonne the 12 apostles of our Lorde under dyvers stonis.

M.C.C.X.L.I.X. Walter Bronescombe afterwarde Byshoppe of Exonecester.

M.C.C.L. John de Kynton.

M.CC.L.XXXX.II. Engelram de Courcie.

M.C.CC.X. Wyllyam de Blondeville.

M.CCC.XV. Walter de Lofynge.

M.CCC.XXXVI. Robert de la Corner.

M.CCC.LX. Johannes le White.

M.CCC.LXX. Rogerus de Somerville.

M.CCC.XCIII. Everarde de la Yate.

M.CCCC.XX. Edmonde Holbeck.

M.CCCC.XXXVI. John Warlewaste.

M.CCCC.L. Reginald Mottecombe.

M.CCCC.LVII. Radulph de Beckington, who now doth hold the fame priourie. Thus dothe ende the rolle of Seyncte Bartholomewis priourie bie Thomas Rowley.

It appears from ancient deeds there was also a prioress appointed for this hospital; though by inquisition it was proved that it was a very ancient foundation, of which there was no account but by public fame, that the custody of it was always in men and not in women: the following occur prioresses whatever their authority might be—1 Aug. 1363 Elizabeth Batte—Joan Joye—1368 Maud Coveley.—In 1382 Robert Cheddre leaves a legacy to the sisters of St. Bartholomew's; book of wills, p. 8.

It is said in a deed 1386 that Lord de la War was the true patron to present, and that the rents and profits of it consisted in lands cultivated and rents to the value of 30 marks &c.

This house with all the lands, &c. thereto belonging was by licence from King Henry 8th. anno regni 24, purchased by the executors of Robert Thorn,

Thorn, Esq; of Sir Thomas West, Knight, and Lord la Warre, patrons and founders, George Croft, master, and the brethren and sisters of the said hospital, and conveyed to the mayor, burgeses, and commonalty of Bristol, for erecting a free grammar-school, in pursuance of the will of the said Robert Thorn. This and some other hospitals in Bristol were probably in bad condition in Leland's time, he having placed this amongst those in ruin. Robert and Nicholas the sons of Robert Thorn were also great benefactors to this school. The head master thereof is at present allowed 6ol. the under master or usher 4ol. per annum.

The bailiff who collects the rents for the corporation of Bristol pays at Michaelmas to the head master of this school 1l. 13s. 4d. and the usher 16s. 8d. as the gift of Mrs. Netheway to buy each of them a hat.

There are certain lands and tenements called the Bartholomew's, (the rents collected by the bailiff) lying and being in Wickwar, Horfield, Stapleton, Winterbourn, Brislington, Almondsbury, and in Bristol, to the amount in 1740 of 89l. 4s. 6d. in ground or reserved rents.

For the greater encouragement of freemen's sons educated at this school, several well-disposed persons have left exhibitions for such when sent to the university of Oxford, as appears by enquiry made in the Chamber Book of Orders the 23d of August and 12th of William 3d. 1700.

Mrs. Ann Snigg gave two exhibitions of 6l. each payable yearly for ever towards the maintenance of two youths in the university, sons of free burgeses, to be chosen out of the Grammar-school of Bristol by the mayor and common council.

Mr. White gave an exhibition of 5l. yearly for the same purpose for one young man, in the same manner to be chosen.

Mr. Alderman Whitson gave two exhibitions of 1ol. per annum to two young men, to be chosen out of the same school.

About the year 1700 it was agreed to send all these scholars that were exhibitioners to Baliol college, and Dr. Maunder, the president, agreed to receive them there, that by their friendship and mutual assistance, after being bred at Bristol Grammar-school, they might assist each other in their studies, and the corporation be more easily informed where they were and what progress and improvement they made in their learning, and the corporation ordered 100l. as a present from the city towards completing the additional buildings of Baliol on this occasion; but since that time they are not confined to one college, and the exhibitioners are placed to what college the parents may think best,
and

and the exhibitions given to freemen's sons of Bristol, to whatever college they may happen to belong.

By a decree upon a commission of the High Court of Chancery, 12th July, 8th James 1st. it was ordered that the mayors for the time being should continue to be special governors of this school and yearly visit it, and from time to time with advice of the aldermen and common council for ever hereafter as often as they see occasion displace or place the school-master and usher, and from time to time make orders and rules for the education of youth there in grammar and other good literature, so that they be not repugnant to the laws and ordinances set down by the founders. It was also decreed that only 4d. should be taken by the school-master for every school-boy's admission, and in such form freely to be taught as set down by the founders.

This school has long flourished under the care and patronage of the corporation, and the distinguished abilities of the masters who have presided here, and have greatly supported its credit. For encouragement of the master and better accommodation of boarders (and he is allowed to take some) the house at the Bartholomews's, being old, dark, and in a low inconvenient situation, was exchanged for the more airy and spacious hospital of Queen Elizabeth in Orchard-street; but the endowments of each separately remain the same, the place only being charged (see page 379.) so that this free grammar-school continues to grow in esteem, to the great advantage of the citizens of Bristol, who are inclined to give their sons a learned education at little expence, and prepare them for the university or any of the professions of divinity, physic, or law, and who have a natural right and gratuitous claim to the privileges of this school and the fellowship and exhibitions in Oxford belonging to it. There are certain rules and ordinances for the well-governing of this school and about the qualifications of school-master and usher, which have been agreed on and confirmed by the corporation, the trustees and visitors of the school, who from time to time have advanced the salaries of the master and usher, that the founder's good designs of a free grammar-school be punctually fulfilled, and not frustrated by deviating from the original foundation calculated for the ease, relief, and emolument of the citizens.

There is in this parish a chapel dedicated to the Three Kings of Cologne, and an almshouse to it adjoining, having fourteen chambers for the habitation of one priest, eight poor men, and five poor women. Its situation is at the top of Queen-street and Steep-street, and it was founded about the 19th year of Henry 7th. 1504, by John Foster, mayor in 1481. After his death this charity was augmented by John Esterfield, mayor in 1488, 1495, one of his

executors. The land on which it is built was purchased by Mr. Foster only for a term of years of the abbot of Tewksbury, but was afterwards bought in fee by Mr. Esterfield. No person was to be admitted on this charitable foundation but English, and none under the age of fifty years or married. The mayor and aldermen of Bristol for the time being had power to place in seven men, and Mrs. Mayorefs four women; the other two persons were to be placed in by the master of the house of St. Mark of Billeswyck for the time being. The priest was daily to say mass between the hours of eight and nine in the morning for the good estate of the souls of John Foster and Elizabeth his wife, their fathers and mothers; for James Venables, the said John Esterfield, merchant, and for Alice and Maud his late wives, &c. for which the priest was to have 5l. 6s. 8d. per annum. The whole accounts of this charity are to be produced by the bailiff that collects the rents, &c. on the 11th of November yearly, and then audited before the mayor and the town clerk, when if present the mayor was to receive 5s. the town clerk 1s. 8d. and the bailiff 20d. for their trouble.

This charity was further augmented by Dr. George Owen, physician to King Henry 8th. which in the year 1748 brought in 86l. 19s. 10d. per annum. The rents of the lands given by Foster, &c. in the same year produced 77l. 11s. per annum, being chiefly out upon lives. The government of this house at present is in the magistrates of Bristol, by whose care and good management the poor there (fourteen) are now paid each of them 2s. 6d. per week. In the Christmas they have double pay, and in Easter and Whitson weeks they are paid 5s. more than their usual pay, and at some time in the year they have shirts, shifts, and coal given them.

The rector of this parish is paid by the chamberlain of Bristol 10l. per annum for prayers and a monthly sermon to be preached in this chapel, to the clerk 26s.

The annual disbursements out of Foster's lands, Dr. Owen's, and those called the Bartholomew's, all blended together for the support of Foster's almshouse, Bartholomew's grammar-school, and for the school in Redcliff churchyard, are,

	l.	s.	d.
To the master of the grammar-school at Redcliff	-	-	4 0 0
To the master and usher of the Bartholomew's grammar-school,			
one year	-	-	102 10 0
To fourteen persons in Foster's almshouse at 2s. 6d. each, one year	91	0	0
To the rector of St. Michael's parish for service there	-	10	0 0
To the clerk of that parish, his yearly salary	-	1	6 0
			To

To other contingencies paid by the bailiff one year, with other	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
disbursements, amounting to about 40 <i>l.</i> per annum	40	0	0
	£ 248	16	0

On the side of St. Michael's-hill in this parish Edward Colston, Esq; having purchased of the mayor and commonalty of the city of Bristol two acres and three quarters and thirty-seven perches of pasture ground, known by the name of the Turtles, alias Jonas Leases, on part of this ground in the year 1691, he built and finished an hospital or almshouse of freestone with a chapel for divine service, the charge of which amounted to about 2500*l.* having three messuages or tenements erected upon some other part of the said ground adjoining to the hospital. And in the year 1696 he endowed the same with lands and fee farm rents, &c. in Northumberland. This house hath twenty-four apartments for twelve men and twelve women, freemen, or the widows, sons, or daughters of such freemen, or born in the city of Bristol, or that have lived in the said city for twenty years before admittance, which house is for ever to be called Colston's Almshouse. The founder during his natural life reserved a power to himself of placing in the poor when any vacancy should happen, and after his decease he gave the same power for ever to be in the master, wardens, assistants, and commonalty of the Merchant Venturers within the city of Bristol, and appointed them visitors or governors thereof, and invested them with lands, rents, &c. for its support, viz. to each person of this house 3*s.* per week; but upon the death of any person there belonging, no successor shall be intitled to that pay till three months after the death of the predecessor, which shall be kept in stock for keeping the house in repair, and that out of the twelve men one shall be chief brother of the house, who shall weekly or once in a fortnight receive the allowance of 3*s.* each from the master wardens, &c. for every person there, and for his care and pains he shall be allowed full 6*s.* per week, and at his death another elder brother shall be chosen by the company of merchants out of those men in the house. And that each person in the house either before or after Christmas shall receive twenty-four sacks of coal and 10*s.* for soap and candles. And that in the chapel room shall be read the Common Prayer according to the liturgy of the Church of England by a person in holy orders, to be appointed by the founder during his life, and after that by the master, wardens, &c. of said company, who shall pay him 10*l.* per annum. And if the stock of the house should fall short, then to deduct 1*s.* per week out of every one's pay, but not to continue above one year. And if that is not sufficient then

the residue to be supplied by not filling up the places of any of the six decayed sailors in the Merchant's almshouse, all which endowments came to about 8500l.

The accounts of this house are always to be kept separate, and once a year the house to be visited by the twenty trustees or less, and when by death they are reduced to four then to convey to twenty others.

Rules to be observed in this hospital.

1. That prayers be read in the chapel every mornin and evening in the year, except Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, when there are prayers at the parish church: if the reader neglect, then 1s. to be stopt for each neglect out of his pay.

2. Prayers to begin at eight o'clock in the morning and at three in the afternoon from Lady-day to the 29th of September, and from the 29th of September to the 25th of March at nine o'clock in the morning and three in the afternoon.

3. All persons belonging to the house shall attend the prayers in the chapel, or in the parish church, sickness only excepted, on the forfeiture of 6d. for each default.

4. All fines shall be applied to the stock of the house, and that the chief brother do keep a book to note down all the affairs of the house, which shall be produced to the master, wardens, &c.

5. The house to be visited by the governors twice a year.

6. That once a year the accounts shall be made up relating to the house.

7. That none be chosen into the house but those of the communion of the Church of England, nor under the age of fifty, unless for a chief brother, nor any vicious person, &c.

8. That there be in the house always four men or women out of Temple parish, two of Christ Church, and two out of St. Michael, provided the premises be not rated to the poor of St. Michael's parish.

9. No inmate shall lodge in the house, or child or children be kept there by day or night.

10. The chief brother shall have the care of the house and the inhabitants therein, and remark in a book what is done amiss.

11. The gate shall be locked every night at nine o'clock in the summer, and in the winter at eight: and that lying out three nights in the year shall be sufficient for expulsion. The elder brother shall appoint one of the house to lock the doors and to ring the bell for prayers.

12. These rules shall be read at the time of visitation.

At

At the north-east entrance into the Royal Fort-lane in this parish is a school erected by John Elbridge, Esq; in his life time. At his death, which happened the 22d of February, 1739, he left by his will 3000l. to endow this charity for the cloathing of twenty-four female children once a year and educating them in reading, writing, cyphering, and sewing: there is no allowance for diet or lodging. In pursuance to his will in the year 1748 his trustees erected a handsome house with two apartments, which cost 287l. for the habitation of the school-master and mistress. The master's salary is 20l. and the mistress's 15l. per annum, she having the benefit of their work, and both allowed coals and candles. The annual income for the support of this charity is about 90l. per annum, which arises from South Sea annuities, settled by the Lord Chancellor, and invested in the hands of feoffees and trustees for the said uses.

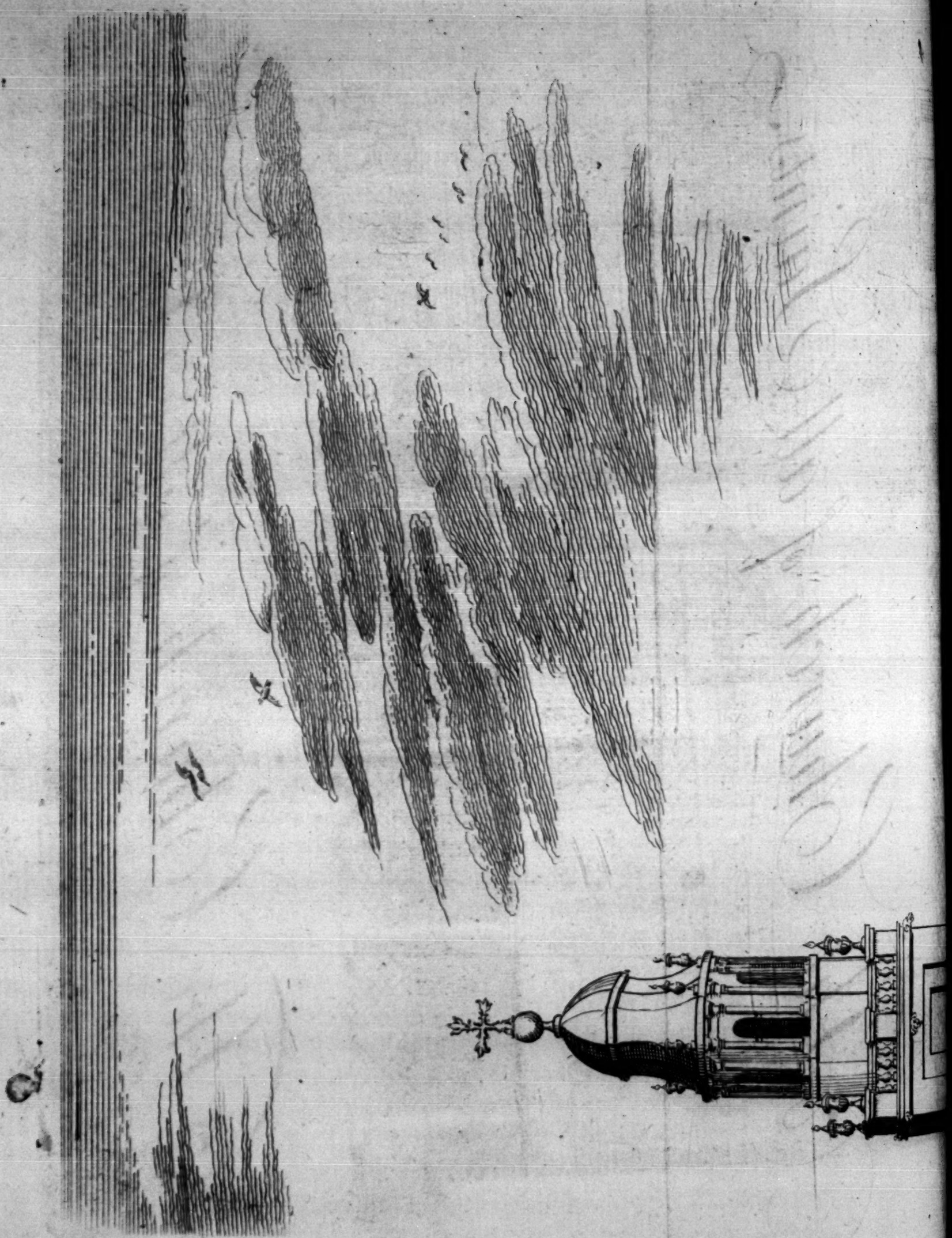
A charity-school is established by the parishioners of St. Michael and St. Augustin, for keeping the poor boys belonging to each parish at school and instructing them in reading, writing, cyphering, and the church catechism. It is chiefly supported by the contributions of a few gentlemen of each parish, and has few benefactions as yet bestowed on it.

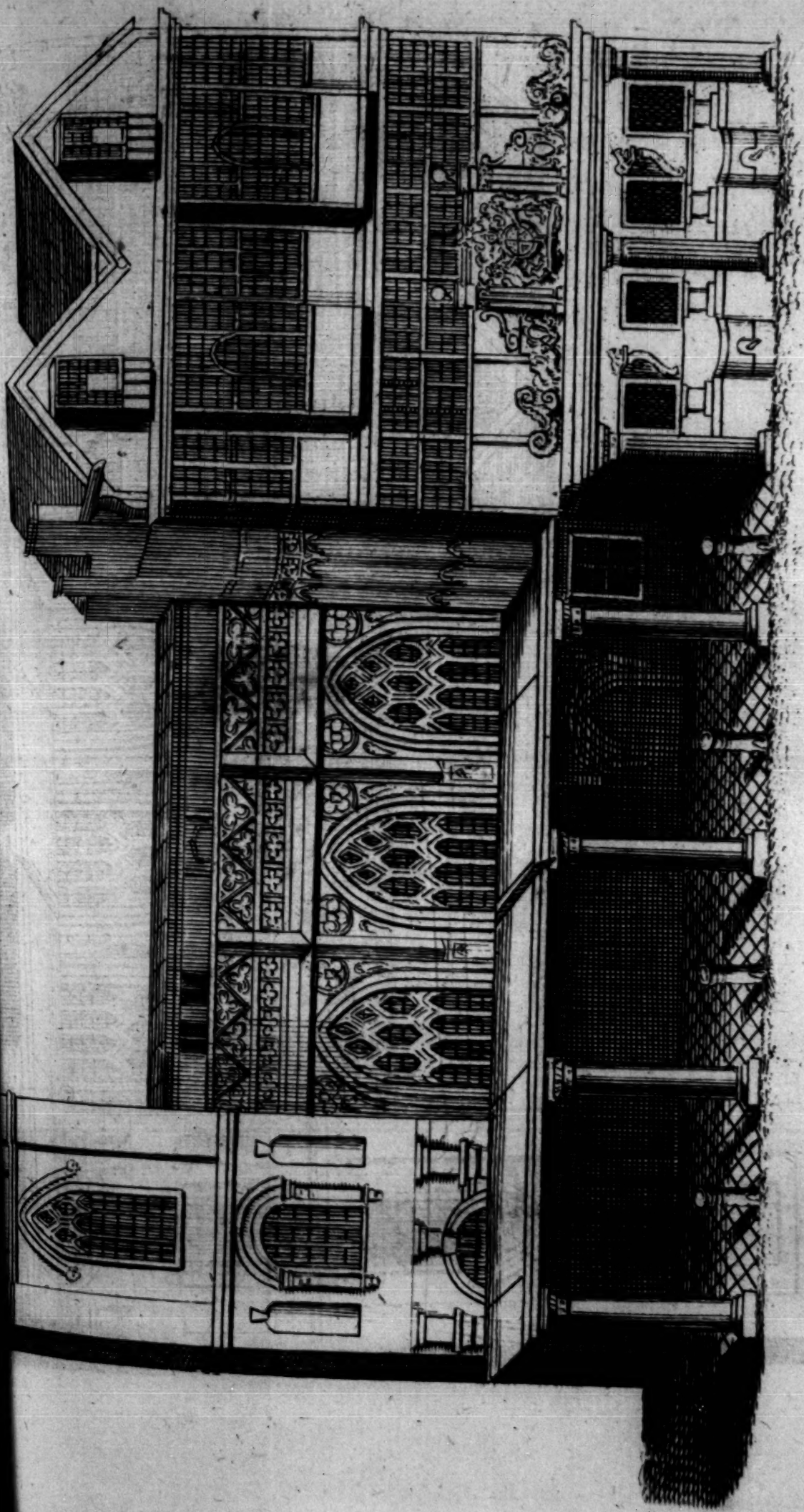
C H A P. XIV.

Of the CHURCH of ALL SAINTS, and HOUSE and SOCIETY of KALENDARIES.

THIS church is very old, being one of those built in the center of the city supposed to be founded by one of the Anglo-Saxon Earls of Gloucester, dedicated to All Saints, a festival kept on the first of November.— It is mentioned by Leland as early appropriated to the monastery of St. Augustin. Robert Fitzharding with Robert Earl of Gloucester then Lord of Bristol translated the fraternity of Kalendaries from the church of Holy Trinity or Christ Church to this of All Saints. It is but a small church of three ailes, the north and south being of equal length; at the west end of these a house projects over two large freestone pillars into the church, which hurts the

the appearance of it and flattens the sound of the organ, erected between them in the year 1740 at the expence of 249l. The middle aisle is in length 70 feet, and in height about 49; the side aisles are each about 30 feet high; the roof is all of timber; the outside covered with Cornish tile, repaired the 10th of Henry 8th. by Robert Elliot, then abbot of St. Augustin, as also was the chancel by a decree from the Bishop of Worcester. On its north-east side was a low freestone tower taken down in the year 1713, and in the year 1716 it was begun to be rebuilt by the voluntary contributions of the citizens at the expence of 589l. 10s. 3d. towards which Edward Colston, Esq; gave 250l. The church books say that in 1443 the steeple was repaired. William of Worcester mentions the length of it to be in toto 23 yards or 74 steps, and its breadth 20 yards or 34 steps. In 1451 Sir John Gyllard, prior of the Kalendaries, built the curious wainscot ceiling over the north aisle called Jesus's aisle, on which are carved, gilt, and painted many curious emblems of the sufferings of Christ, but growing to decay and found dangerous was taken down in the year 1782 and rebuilt: over this aisle at the same time was constructed a large room for a public library under the government of the prior and mayor. And it appears from deeds that the house at the north-west end of the church, part of which was over the public conduit and at its back part projected into the church, was the house of the Kalendaries, out of which by a door they communicated with the library. The house at the south-west end resting on the pillars of the church is the vicarage-house, built by Thomas Marshall, vicar and one of the Kalendaries, about the year 1422. There is a deed in the registers of the church of Worcester, (Morgan, vol. i. folio 70) entitled, "Fundatio Manfi Vicarii omnium Sanctorum." The founder Marshall erected the building at his own expence, partly on the ground of the church and partly on the churchyard, for the perpetual residence of all the future vicars, and he obtained of Philip Bishop of Worcester confirmation of it for that use, who ordered an annual obiit on the 7th of January and prayers for the soul of the said Marshall, to be celebrated in this church by all succeeding vicars, and that they should pay 6s. 8d. in the following manner: six grossos monetæ (groats) equally between six chaplains then present, at the exequies and mass 12d. for two wax candles, 10d. to the parish clerk (clasticum vel campanas pulfanti) 2d. to the crier for proclaiming the obiit, and 20d. worth (denariatus) of bread to be distributed among the poor, and 6d. each to the proctors of the church to superintend the said ordinance. This church was new pewed in the year 1757 in a neat and elegant manner, the ground floor then very low much risen, and the pulpit removed to the opposite side; but in the year 1770 was farther





The Church of all Saints.



farther embellished, the seats being taken up and fixed anew and the whole painted and beautified at a very great expence, and though small it now makes a very neat appearance: a painting of the salutation of the Virgin Mary is set up over the altar. In the year 1728 eight new bells were cast at the expence of 134l. 10s. 9d. besides the fix old ones, the tenor not to exceed 1700lb. weight, and the rest in proportion. There were several altars in this church, at which obiits were celebrated. In 1241 Alice Hazle left a tene-ment called the Green Lettice in High-street of 5l. 6s. 8d. per annum, to discharge the expence of her obiit on the 10th of July annually at the cross or rood altar entering the chancel. In 1433 Martin Draper gave 12d. a year to maintain a lamp to burn there, and John le Gate gave 4s. per annum to find five tapers to burn before our Lady's altar. The following persons founded chauntries here for the good of their souls and for their friends: John Haddon, vintner; Sir Thomas Marshall, vicar, who died the 17th of January, 1434; Sir William Rodberd, vicar, who died the 6th of June, 1453; Thomas Holway, who died the 13th of December, 1454; Everard French established a chauntry here, and Henry Chester, who died the 14th of February, 1470, for himself and his wife Alice, who died the 16th of December, 1485. The obiit of John Snigg was kept the 18th of September, 1490, and that of Sir Nicolas Parker, vicar, the 8th of August, 1436, he gave 8s. per annum to provide 10lb. of wax for two tapers to burn before the high altar. The gifts to the use of this church in rich ornaments and vestments are surprizingly great, and it appears by the church deeds that on the 14th of August, 1459, there was upwards of 423 ounces of silver plate belonging to these altars. It would be endless to reckon up the number of chalices, patens, crosses both gold and silver of great weight, some weighing upwards of ninety ounces, embellished with rubies and other precious stones, tabernacles, spoons of gold, ampullas, censers, candlesticks, paxes, cruets, ships, sepulchres, bells, gilt crowns, angels painted, stained cloths for the coronation of our Lady, Lent cloths for the rood altar, curtains, vestments of velvet, silk, gold, silver, &c. fringes, banners, frontels, corporassys, &c. mass books, antiphoneries, psaw-ters, books for the organs, legends, processions, grayles, ordinals, &c.

On the 14th of August, 1549, the following jewels were weighed at All Saints church by which the riches belonging thereto may be estimated.

	Ounces.
A great cross of silver, all gilt, weight	159
A small cross, all gilt, with a crucifix	60
One pax of silver, all gilt, with a little cup and spoon	44 $\frac{3}{4}$
	Two

Two censers, all gilt	Ounces.
Two candlesticks of silver, part gilt, with a little pax, and a	68
ship of silver, part gilt	91 $\frac{3}{4}$
	423 $\frac{1}{2}$

All these valuables with many more too tedious to enumerate fell into the hands of Henry 8th. and Edward 6th. at the dissolution, and the plate it appears by the following receipt was all coined for his Majesty's use.

" On the 13th of August, 1549, was received by me, Robert Recorde, comptroller of his Majesty's mint of Bristol, to his Highness's use, of Mr. William Younge and John Pykes, proctors of All Hallows in Bristol, in gilt silver 19lb. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and in parcel gilt 15lb. 3oz.

" ROBERT RECORDE."

There was annually performed in this church a general obit for all good doers about the year 1500, the expence thereof paid by the churchwardens as follows :

	l.	s.	d.
To the vicar 4d. to five priests for the dirge, 1s. 3d.	-	0	1 7
To the clerk for his labour and bell	-	0	1 2
To three bushels and a half wheaten meal, at 1s. 6d. per bushel	0	5	3
To three ounces and a half saffron 4s. 4d. and 2 oz. cloves, 8d.	0	5	0
Bread to poor people, 7d. pottle of oil, 1s.	0	1	7
To three gallons of claret wine	0	2	0
To three gallons of malsmy wine	0	3	0
To two gallons of sack	0	1	4
To the sexton for laying the hearse	0	0	2
To baking the cakes, 1s. 4d. singing ale two dozen, 2s. 2d.	0	3	6
	£	1	4 7

In 1552 much plate still remaining, it was on the 6th of August, 6th year of King Edward 6th. delivered to his commissioners for the use of his mint then at Bristol, two chalices and six bells excepted, which were left till the king's pleasure was further known. The plate in use at present consists of two silver flaggons, 92 ounces; one silver cup and cover gilt, 32 ounces; one silver gilt plate, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces; one ditto, 14 ounces.

This vicarage is valued in the King's Books at the clear yearly value of 21l. 11s. 8d. the yearly tenths now discharged were 8s. 4d. An annual crown rent of 4s. is paid out of a house in High-street and one in Broad-street.

The patrons are the dean and chapter of Bristol.

The

The living is estimated to be worth to the vicar annually, l. s. d.

In Easter dues and surplice fees, about - - - 60 0 0

By a free gift out of the vestry stock - - - 30 0 0

By the annual rent of the vicarage-house, if let - - - 26 0 0

£ 116 0 0

And to a lecturer annually for service every Sunday

afternoon, per annum - - - 20 0 0

A collection for him at Easter, about - - - 15 0 0

£ 35 0 0

VICARS of All Saints Church.

PATRONS.

- The abbot and
convent of
St. Augustin.
- 1278 William Santocke.
1278 Michael Ruffelyn.
1280 Sir William Selke, of the fraternity of Kalendars.
1286 William Scoche.
1304 Sir William Lenche, a frier of the Kalendars.
1307 Sir Walter Ifgar, a Kalendar, died 1 Dec. 1321.
1311 Adam de Westbury.
1326 Richard le White.
Sir William Salle.
Sir William Mooche.
Sir William Colas, a Kalendar.
1407 Sir Thomas Marshall, a Kalendar, and was a great benefactor to the church.
William Ryall, chaplain.
1434 Sir Richard Parkhouse, a Kalendar, died 8 Aug. 1436.
1436 Sir William Rodberd, died 1453.
1453 Sir William Were, died 1482.
Sir John Gyllarde, prior of the Kalendars, built the aile of Jesus and library aloof, and expended on the library 217l. died 1451.
1453 Sir Maurice Hardwyk, gave the great ledger-book to record all things, still in being.
1472 Sir William Howe, a Kalendar.
1479 Sir John Thomas, ceiled the roof of the choir.
1484 Sir Thomas Haxby, a Kalendar, died 19 June, 1484.
1486 Sir John Harlow, prior of the Kalendars, died 6 Dec. that year.

PATRONS.

- 1488 Sir John Thomas.
Sir Thomas Turber, a Kalendary.
- 1503 Sir Richard Bromfield.
- 1518 John Flook.
- 1533 Thomas Molence.
- 1536 Thomas Pacy.
- Dean and
chapter of
Bristol. 1541 Humphrey Hyman.
Robert Roolate, died 1567.
- 1567 Thomas Gleffon.
- 1577 William Haftlen.
- 1591 John Knight.
- 1598 Francis Arnold, died 13 July, 1611.
- 1611 Robert Marks, also vicar of South Petherton.
- 1617 William Gregory.
- 1620 Richard Towgood.
- 1626 George Williamson. Of him see Wood's Ath. Oxon
- 1685 Richard Roberts.
- 1686 John Rainstorp, died 1 May, 1693.
- 1693 Thomas Paradice, died 1701.
- 1701 Thomas Cary, died 30 Oct. 1711.
- 1711 James Harcourt, and vicar of South Petherton, died
1739.
- 1739 Thomas Gardiner, died soon of a fever.
- 1739 Josiah Tucker, precentor of the cathedral, afterwards
Dean of Gloucester.
- 1749-50 William Pritchard, died 1753.
- 1753 John Berjew, the present vicar, 1788, and vicar of
Bathford.

There are some very neat and elegant monuments in this church. One very large was at the upper end of the north aisle, supported with three fluted pillars, &c. with the following inscription, but in the late repairs removed.

" Humfridus Toius, Londinensis, jacet in hoc tumulo qui obiit 16 Oct.
1577.

Hunc mors peccati merces subtraxit amara

Qui Deo dives erat, religione pius :

Qui sibi permultum coluit cœlestes alumnos

Fortunæ que bonis pavit et ipse pios :

Christicola

Christicola ut vivus fuit is, tumulatus abibat,

Tum Christi posuit vulneribusque fidem.

Impensas egit in hoc tumulum Margeria conjux predicti Humfridi Toii."

In the middle aisle is a monument erected by Edward Colston, Esq; to the dear memory of his father and mother, four sons, and two daughters. William the father died 21 November, 1681, aged 73; Sarah the mother died 22 December, 1701, aged 93. Edward Colston, junr. died 5 April, 1719; Sarah his daughter, 28 January, 1721, aged 15; Mary his wife, 29 November, 1733, aged 49.

On an old stone under the reading desk was the following:—"Thomas Colston, mayor and alderman of this city, died 16 November, 1597, with the following lines:

" Death is no death, now Thomas Colston lives,
Who fourscore years hath lived to his praise :
A joyful life now Christ doth to him give,
Who wrong'd no wight, each man commends his ways.
Death him commands to bid this world adieu ;
Thrice happy those who die to live anew.

At the upper end of the south aisle is the following inscription, and a monument: see the print.

" To the memory of Edward Colston, Esq; who was born in the city of Bristol, and was one of the representatives in parliament for the said city in the reign of Queen Ann. His extensive charity is well known to many parts of this kingdom; but more particularly to this city, where his benefactions have exceeded all others. A list of which is on his monument as followeth. He lived 84 years, 11 months, and 9 days, and then departed this life the 11th of October, 1721, at Mortlake in Surry, and lieth buried in a vault by his ancestors in the first cross alley under the reading desk of this church.

The PUBLIC CHARITIES and BENEFACTIONS given and founded by EDWARD COLSTON, Esquire.

IN BRISTOL.

On St. Michael's-hill.

1691, An almshouse for 12 men and 12 women; the chief brother to receive 6s. the other 3s. per week besides coal, &c. To a chaplain 10l. per annum. The whole to be paid by fee farm rents on estates in Northumberland, Cumberland, and Durham, and by some houses and lands near the house. The charge about	-	-	-	-	-	l.
						8500
						In

In King-street.

Six failors to be maintained in the Merchants' almshouse, by a farm in Congersbury, Somerset. The charge about - 600

In Temple-street.

1696, A school for 40 boys to be cloathed and taught, endowed with an annuity out of the manor of Tomarhear, Somerset. An house and garden for the master. The charge about 3000

In the College-green.

1702, To the rebuilding the boys' hospital - - - 500
And for 6 boys to be cloathed, maintained, instructed, and apprenticed. A farm of 70l. per annum in Congersbury. The charge about - - - 1500

In St. Peter's parish.

To the Mint workhouse - - - 200
And for placing out poor children - - - 200

On St. Augustine's-back.

1708, An hospital for a master, two ushers, and a catechist, and 100 boys to be instructed, maintained, and apprenticed. The charge about - - - 40000
One hundred pounds per annum to be given for twelve years after his death, either to those who have been apprenticed from the hospital of St. Augustine's-back, or from the apprenticing of boys from Temple school, by 10l. each - 1200
To the severall charity-schools each 10l. per annum, given for many years while he lived, and to be continued for twelve years after his death.

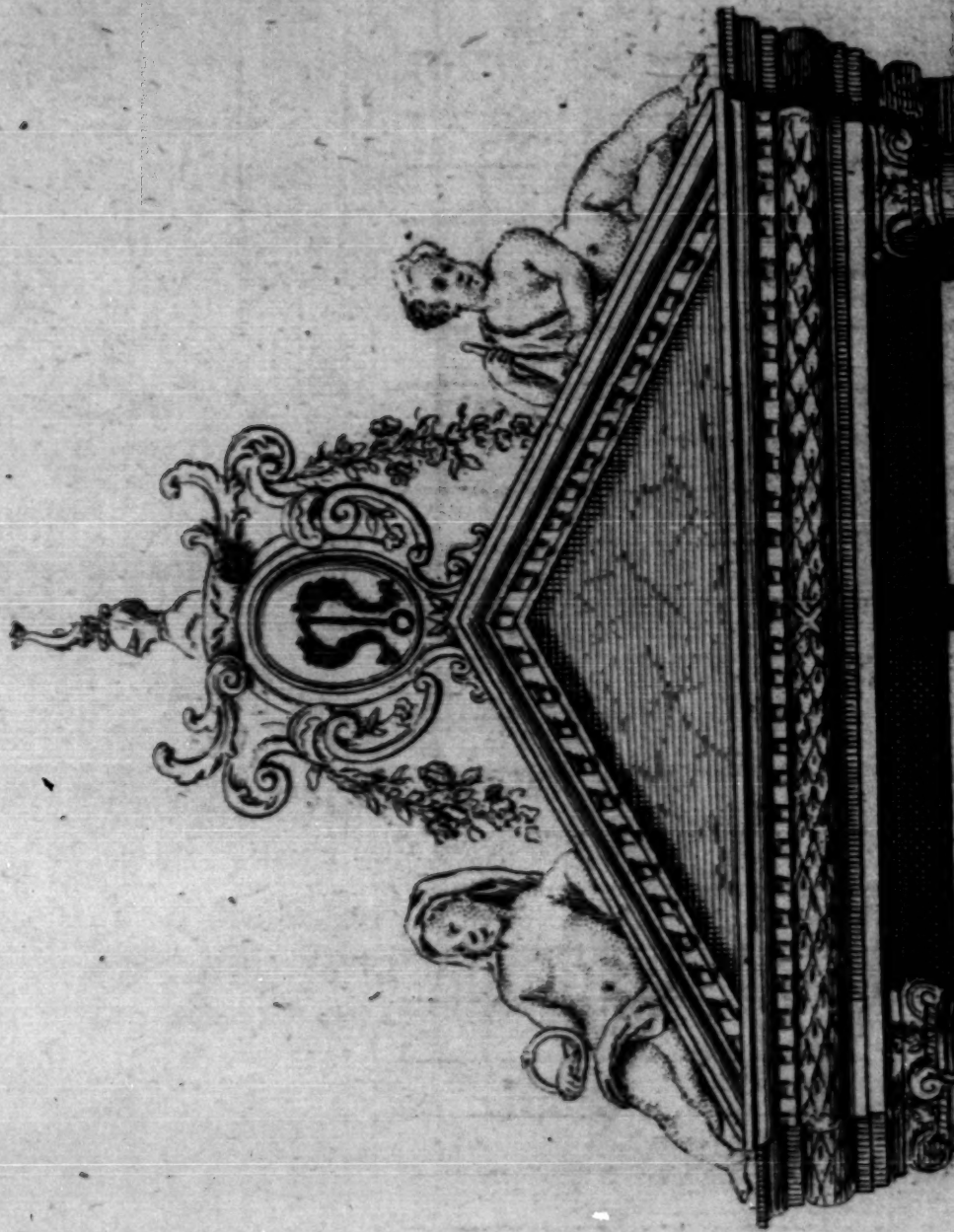
To the repairing and beautifying of churches.

All Saints	-	-	250	St. Michael	-	-	50
Cathedral	-	-	260	St. Stephen's	-	-	50
Clifton	-	-	50	Temple	-	-	160
St. James	-	-	100	St. Thomas	-	-	50
St. Mary Redliff	-	-	100	St. Werburgh	-	-	160—1230

For reading prayers at All Saints every Monday and Tuesday morning, 7l. per annum - - - 140
For twelve sermons at Newgate, 6l. per annum - - - 120
For fourteen sermons in Lent 20l. per annum, now discontinued 400

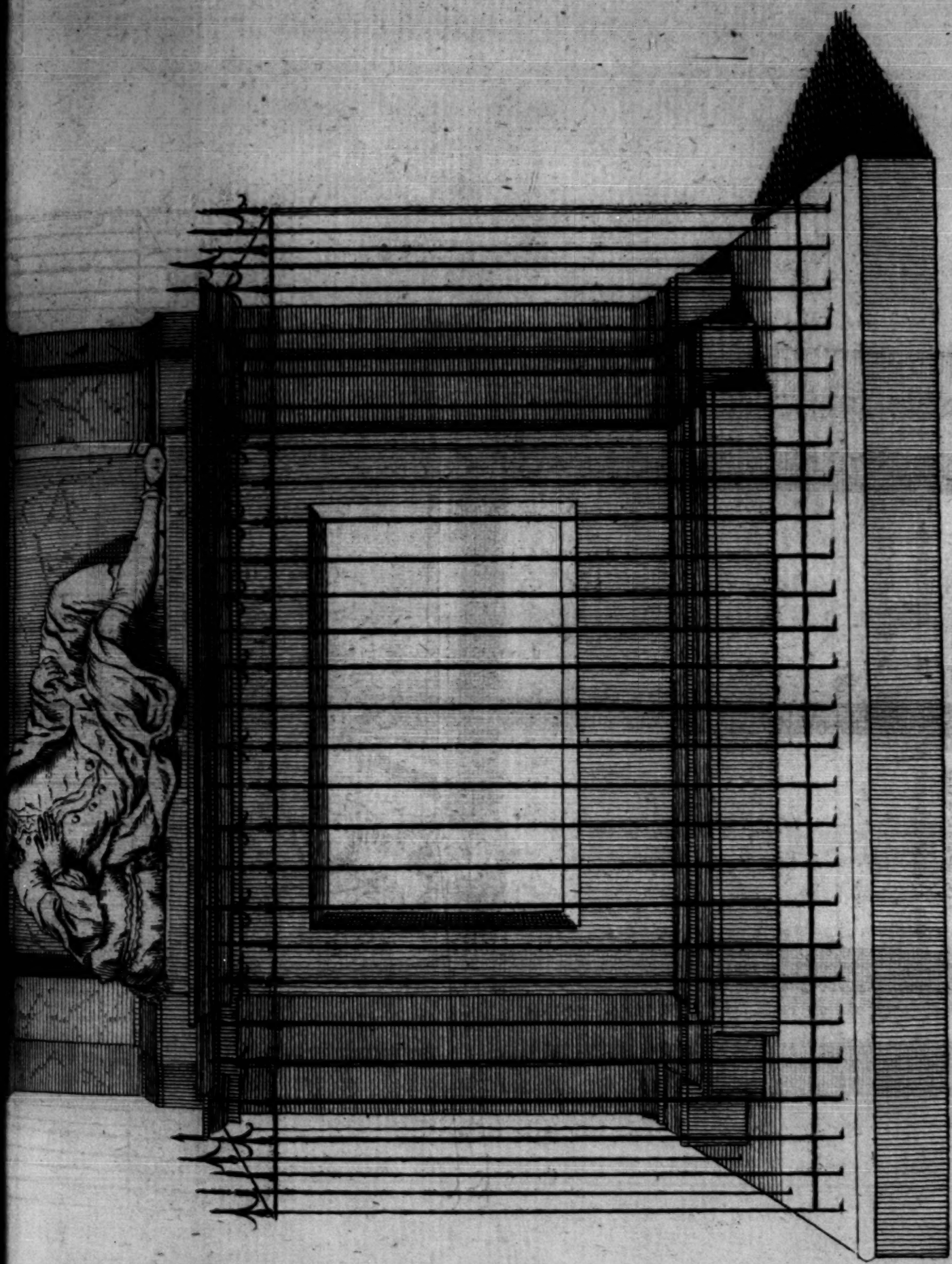
In LONDON.

To St. Bartholomew's hospital - - - 2500
To Christ Church ditto - - - 2000
To



To the repair &
Beautifying
of Churches
in BRISTOL
&c.

public Charities
In BRISTOL
an Alms-house &c



The Monument of EDW.^D COLSTON Esq.



To St. Thomas's hospital	- - - - -	500
To Bethlehem ditto	- - - - -	500
To the new workhouse without Bishopsgate	- - - - -	200
To the Society for propagating the Gospel	- - - - -	300
To the Company of Mercers	- - - - -	100

In Surry at SHEEN.

An almshouse for six poor men, built and endowed.

At MORTLAKE.

For the education and cloathing of 12 boys and 12 girls, 45l.

per annum - - - - - 900

To 85 poor people at his death - - - - - 85

In LANCASHIRE.

Towards building a church at Manchester - - - - - 20

To 18 charity-schools on several parts of England for many years after his death, 90l. per annum.

To the augmentation of 60 small livings - - - - - 6000

In all £ 70695

This great and pious benefactor was known to have done many other excellent charities, and what he did in secret is believed to be not inferior to what he did in public.

On the pedestal under him is : " Edward the son of William Colston, Esq; and Sarah his wife was born in this city, November 2, 1636. Died at Mortlake, Surry, October 11, 1721, and lies buried near this monument." He was buried October 27, 1721. See more of him in the chapter of the lives of eminent Bristol men hereafter.

Over the north door is a neat monument " To the memory of Edward Colston, Esq; eldest son of Alexander Colston, Esq; and Sophia his wife, and great great nephew of Edward Colston, Esq; He died November 12, 1763, aged 24."

Sir John Duddleston, Bart. lies buried with dame Sufanna his lady under the first pew coming into the church, on the right hand, at the north door. — He was created a baronet January 11, 1691. He was the first baronet of his family, and was an eminent tobacco-merchant in the house fronting the south side of St. Werburgh's tower, the back part of which is now called Shannon-court, within the parish of St. Werburgh, who, on Prince George of Denmark's arrival to see this city, was the first person that invited him to his house, whereupon when that Prince came to London, he got him first knighted and afterwards a baronet's patent.

In

In the middle aisle was a stone with this : — “ Hic jacet Thomas Marshall, vir bonæ memoriæ, quondam vicarius hujus ecclesiæ, qui obiit 17 die Junii, A. D. 1434, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen.” Out of the month of his figure in brass on the stone proceed three scrolls thus inscribed—Redemptor meus vivit.—De terrâ surrecturus sum.—In carne meâ videbo servatorem meum.

Near this — “ Hic requiescunt corpora bonæ memoriæ Johannis Haddon, vynter et chrystinæ uxoris suæ et Aliciæ filiæ dicti Johannis qui obiit 11 Martii, 1433, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen.”

“ Gulielmus Rodbert, quondam vicarius, obiit 6 Jun. 1453.”

“ Richardus Roberts, A. M. nuper vicarius, obiit 25 Sept. 1686.”

“ Robert Aldworth, town clerk, 20 March, 1675.”

“ Christopher Kedgwin, mayor and alderman, died 14 February, 1617, aged 68.”

In the chancel is a monument with his statue half length of Mr. John Doughty, mayor and alderman and burgess in parliament, with English verses underneath. He died 1629, aged 67. Arms, f. or. a cross fleury gules.

In the chancel a neat monument against the wall : — “ In a vault near this place lies interred the body of Deborah Freeman, wife of John Freeman, of Clifton, Esq; she departed this life, April 8, 1766, aged 62 years. If the loss of an endearing wife, affectionate mother, sincere friend, and generous benefactress, distressed her husband, children, acquaintance, and necessitous poor; yet the consideration that all these social and moral characters were spiritualized and immortalized to the life-giving principles of Christian faith and divine love revives the hearts of all that knew her in the glorious hope of meeting her purified in her eternal state.”

On another near this : — “ To the memory of John Freeman, Esq, late of Clifton, formerly of this parish, who by the blessing of Divine Providence on great natural abilities, prudence, integrity, and industry, acquired an affluent fortune, which he employed in administering relief to the distressed, and instruction to the ignorant. His charity was not the transient impulse of casual compassion, but the regular effect of settled principles. He adorned an honourable old age with the exact exercise of the social and religious duties, and by a strict course of temperance attained to the age of 84. As he lived in the Christian faith, he died in the full persuasion of the Christian hope on the 28th of August, 1786.”

On another : — “ To Abigail Freeman, wife of John Freeman, junr. Esq; she died 16th March, 1764, aged 28. Abigail their daughter 13th January,

1784,

1784, aged 2 years 6 months; also Elizabeth their daughter 16 April 1787, aged 6 years.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of All Saints parish.

Robert Colston the son of William Colston Esq; deceased, *l. s. d.*
a native of this city, gave 6*l.* per ann. for prayers to
be read Monday and Tuesday throughout the year,
and to the clerk and sexton 10*s.* per ann. - 130 0 0

1701, John Hicks Esq; sometime mayor and alderman of this city,
gave the sum of 12*l.* 10*s.* the income yearly to such poor
of All Saints parish as do not receive alms, - 12 10 0

1709, Samuel Bayley Esq; sometime sheriff of this city, gave 24*l.*
the interest thereof to be applied on St. Andrew's day in
every year as follows :

For a sermon	-	-	-	0	12	0
To the clerk	-	-	-	0	2	6
To the sexton	-	-	-	0	1	6
To each of the 8 alms-women 1 <i>s.</i>	-	0	8	0	—	24 0 0

1714, Thomas Bayley of this city merchant gave 10*l.* the interest
thereof to be given to the poor of the almshouse in bread
the 16th of April for ever, - - - 10 0 0

1724, John Cook of this city distiller gave 20*l.* for the payment of
20*s.* for preaching a sermon on the 30th of January
for ever, - - - 20 0 0

1738, Thomas Gibbs late of this parish gave 50*l.* for payment of
5*l.* for cloathing the 8 poor women in the almshouse on
the 8th day of April every second year for ever, by
the churchwardens and vestrymen, - - - 50 0 0

1594, Robert Kitchen, mayor and alderman of this city, by his will
dated the 9th day of June, gave 10*s.* per ann. to a poor
householder, to be paid by the chamberlain of this city on
the 25th day of March, - - - 10 0 0

1639, Alderman George Harrington gave 10*s.* per ann. for ever
to a poor housekeeper of this parish, to be paid by the
chamberlain the 25th of March yearly, - - - 10 0 0

Mr. Roger Hurte by his will gave 10*l.* to the churchwardens
of this parish as a stock, that the churchwardens for the
time being shall every year give to each of the poor

women

women in the parish almshouse 1s. each, viz. at Michaelmas and at Christmas to buy them wood and coals, 10 0 0

Also he gave the said parish 5l. more provided the said churchwardens shall procure a sermon to be preached in the church of All Saints on the first Sunday in Lent in the afternoon, the preacher to have 6s. 8d. 5 0 0

1599, June the 20th, Mr. Richard Cole, then deceased, gave a tenement in the Barrs called the Greyhound, let at 1l. 8s. per ann. rented by Richard George brewer, and two gardens in St. Philip's parish, each let at 8s. in all per ann. 2 4 0

To be given as follows:

To the prisoners in Newgate in coals	-	0	10	0
To ditto for three trusses of rye-straw	-	0	9	0
To ditto in bread	-	0	3	0
To the almshouse in Lewin's-mead	-	0	10	0
To the Taylors almshouse	-	0	10	0
To the churchwardens of All Saints for time being	0	2	0	— 2 4 0

Gift SERMONS to be preached at All Saints Church &c. in a frame in the vestry-room.

BENEFACTORS NAMES. l. s. d.

January 30th, the martyrdom of K. Charles the 1st. by Mr. John Cook,	1	0	0
February 2d, the Purification, by Dr. White,	-	2	10 0
The first Sunday in Lent, by Mr. Rogert Hurte,	-	0	10 0
May 1st, St. Philip and Jacob, by Dr. White,	-	2	10 0
Sunday after St. James's day, by Alderman Richard Cole,	-	0	10 0
Sunday before September the 15th, by Alderman Richard Cole,	0	10	0
November 1st, All Saints day, by Dr. White,	-	2	10 0
November 17th, Queen Elizabeth's accession, by Mr. Peter Millard,	0	10	0
November 30th, St. Andrews, by Mr. Samuel Bayly,	-	0	12 0
December 28th, Innocents day, by Dr. White,	-	2	10 0

For reading morning prayers every Monday and Tuesday, by Mr.

Robert Colston son of William Colston Esq; 6 0 0

The ground rents arising from the lands and tenements leased out on lives belonging to the parish amount to 150l. per ann. what the renewals for lives yearly produce must be uncertain and vary.

The almshouses and public structures within the precincts of this parish come next to be considered.—The first and earliest to be noticed is the house of
Kalendars,

Kalendars, which was situated at the south-western part of the church. William Botoner, (p. 190, 253, 170.) whose uncle Thomas Botoner was a brother here, describes it "a college of priests founded of old, or fraternity in honour of the feast of Corpus Christi, long before the Conquest, about the year 700, as I myself saw and read in letters certificatory of an old hand in the time of Wolstan the bishop. The church is situated on the south-west part of the parish church of All Saints, and before the time of Edward 3d. was situated in the parish church of the Holy Trinity, as was certified to me by a relation of —, prior of the said priory." He adds farther, "a pretty house or conduit for water is under the house of Kalenders."

These Kalendars were so antient and so singular an institution, that no city in this nation can boast of the like either with respect to antiquity or use. William Botoner is a good evidence of their early origin, and could not be mistaken in what he saw and read in the certificatory letters or writings of their antiquity before the Conquest in the year 700. And the confirmation of the rights of this society by Gualo the cardinal and pope's legate after crowning King Henry 3d. at Glocester, 1216, in these words, "*Propter antiquitates et bonitates in eâ Gildâ repertas*," shews the antiquity and usefulness of this fraternity, which flourished in Bristol from so early an age, and continued to diffuse knowledge and instruction amongst the clergy and laity so long, and was not dissolved till the time of Henry 8th. at the general dissolution of religious houses.

It appears from records that they were a society of religious and laity like a college de propagandâ fide, wherein Jews and other Infidels were converted, youth instructed and liberally maintained, in the same manner and under the like direction as at the Rolls in Chancery-lane, London, and as the custody of the rolls was committed to the latter, so the former preserved the archives of the town of Bristol, whence they were called the Fraternity of the Kalenders,* from keeping a kalendar or monthly register of all the public acts, registering deeds, rolls, &c. as that of London took the Rolls, both implying the same office of chroniclers or public registers, of which no great cities were destitute.

The following copies of original deeds still extant in the chamber of Bristol are convincing proofs of such an establishment here, and of the fire that happened

I I I

* The law dictionaries call these kalendæ rural deans' chapters and conventions of the clergy, so called because formerly held on the kalends or first day of every month; but our society here consisted of clergy and laity, and were of a peculiar kind and a more extensive institution, as will appear hereafter.

pened in their bochord or library over All Saints church, which destroyed the the most valuable records of this city.

Friday after the
feast of St. Peter
and Paul, 7 Edw.
3d. 1333.

By indenture under the seal of John (by divine permission) then abbot of the monastery of St. Augustine of Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester, and the convent of the same place, to whom impropriation of the church of All Saints in the diocese and city aforesaid belonged, reciting that the co-brethren of the fraternity of the Kalendaries of Bristol, out of a devout zeal for the increase of divine worship, being desirous of erecting a house contiguously adjoining to the said church and on the walls thereof, and of the dimensions after mentioned, to be appropriated for the use and habitation of the priests and co-brethren of the said fraternity, who then did and thence after for ever in future should celebrate divine service for the souls of their co-brethren and of all the faithful deceased, agreeable to the rights and rules of the said fraternity, had humbly requested his (the abbot's) special licence and consent for that purpose; he (the abbot) being willing to grant their request as far as may be without prejudice to the said church or his own rights, did out of regard for the said co-brethren and their fraternity as far as he had power grant for him and his successors, that it should be lawful for them to build and when built always to possess a house of that sort for their use upon the wall of the north side of the said church, that is to say, extending downwards from the door on the same side and the pillar opposite it 30 feet in length, and containing towards Corn-street across the said pillar 23 feet in breadth. To be had and holden to the said co-brethren priests or their successors co-brethren for ever, so that the said co-brethren priests or their successors priests should in future no wise be molested in the premises contrary to the then grant by him the said abbot or his successors or any other person in their name, which said grant was agreed by them so to be restrained as that the said church under the said house should by no means be made narrower, shorter, or more confined, or the foot-standing for the parishioners or others of the faithful who should come there be lessened: and these conditions were therefore added to the said grant, saving likewise always to the said monastery and him (the abbot) and his successors the right of appointment and presentation to the vicarage of the said church.

N. B. The impresson of the seal of this deed is three men's heads, probably designed to represent the three persons of the Trinity, said to be the general seal of the Kalendarars.

This seems to be the grant of a place for rebuilding and enlarging their house.

Why

Why this gild, called *Gilda aut fratria communitatis cleri & populi villæ Bristolliæ*, was removed from the church of the Holy Trinity or Christ Church does not so clearly appear, unless we suppose it to be done at the solicitation of Robert Harding, who was a great favourite of Henry 2d. and the founder of the monastery of St. Augustin, to which he had given the church of All Saints. These particulars are recorded in the little Red Book, p. 83, 84. wrote in good Latin, now in the chamber of Bristol. I obtained a sight of the original deed concerning these Kalendaries, which I have translated and inserted at length, as it is a very curious deed and mentions these Kalendaries as extant and having their place of meeting at Christ Church even before the Conquest.

“ Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Thomæ Dei gratiâ Wygorniaë episcopo suus humillims et devotis Robertus Hazell, rector ecclesiæ de Derham et decanus Christianitatis Bristolliæ subjectionem omnimodam tanto patri debet reverentiam et honorem, &c.”

“ We have received your order containing the following tenor: Thomas, by divine permission, Bishop of Worcester, to the beloved in Christ Master Robert Hazell, and dean of Bristol, grace and benediction, &c. In the year 1318, June 8, at Chiffesbury, mandate was issued for an inquisition into the rights, charters, and liberties of the fraternity of Kalendaries, to which inquisition were called the abbot and convent of St. Augustin, Bristol, frier John de Leye, proctor, and certain burgeses of Bristol, also the mayor and commonalty of the said town, and the other rectors and vicars of the said deanery, some appearing personally and others by their proctors, in the church of All Saints, we proceeded in the enquiry; by which we have found that formerly the said society was called the Gild or fraternity of the community as well clergy as laity of Bristol, and the place of meeting of the brothers and sisters of the same was used to be at the church of the Holy Trinity, Bristol, in the time of Aylward Meau and Bristric his son, Lords of the said town, before the Conquest; the beginning of which gild and fraternity exceeded the memory of man. But after the Conquest in the time of William the Bastard, William Rufus, and Henry, Kings of England, and of Robert Fitzhaman, consul of Glocester and Lord of Bristol, and founder of the monastery of Tewksbury, and the subsequent time of Stephen the King, taking the town of Bristol by war from Robert Earl of Glocester, founder of the priory of St. James and castle of Bristol and its lord, which King Stephen being dead in the time of Henry son of Maud the Empress King of England, one Robert Harding, burges of Bristol, by the consent of the said King Henry and Earl

Robert and others, whom it concerned, removed the said gild or fraternity from the church of Holy Trinity and established schools at Bristol for the conversion of Jews and the instruction of youth, under the disposal of the said fraternity, and protection of the mayor of Bristol for the time being and monastery of St. Augustin in its suburbs, and he appropriated the church of All Saints to the said monastery, and he caused a vicar to be chosen out of the chaplains of the said gild or fraternity, and to be presented by the abbot and convent of the said monastery to the Bishop of Worcester, of which vicarage the said monastery every year ordered a third part to be appropriated in the name of the rectory. And when the heirs of the said Robert Harding and the mayors of Bristol for the time being, in the time of Richard and John Kings of England, protected the rights and liberties of the said gild and fraternity, Gualo, cardinal of the apostolic see and general legate, sent to the kingdom of England, came to Bristol, who after he crowned Henry son of King John at Gloucester King of England, kept a general council at Bristol, in which council the king and cardinal approved and confirmed the said gild and fraternity on account of its antiquity and goodness found therein, which legate commanded and enjoined William de Bleys, Bishop of Worcester, and his successors, to protect the said gild to the praise of God and all saints and amendment of devotion, and union of the clergy and laity of Bristol: he moreover procured a confirmation of all the rights of the said guild, as the possession of all the goods they then possessed or that they should get in a just manner, and especially all the houses, lands, possessions, rents, and all other goods, he took under the protection of the apostolic see, which the Bishop of Worcester approved, and tolerated the said gild and fraternity. Many other things we made inquisition; of all which for their diffuseness we cannot now write, and thus we have executed your command diligently. Given at Bristol, &c."

After an inquisition taken by Wolstan Bishop of Worcester in Bristol, July 10, 1340, it was by him ordained with consent of the prior and chaplains of the college or fraternity of Kalendaries of All Saints church, "that the antient rules observed time immemorial should be established by authority ecclesiastical, that the said college should have one priest-prior, to be chosen by the major part, of the chaplains and co-brethren without any solemnity of confirmation, consecration, or benediction of any one required, and eight chaplains, secular brothers, to celebrate for their defunct brethren and benefactors every day; the admission of which ever belonged to the founders of such their titles or chauntries, whether one, two, or three, &c. during the life of such founder, but after their death to the prior and cofreres of the college without

out presentation or institution elsewhere sought, which if they neglect for two months then it devolved to the Bishop of Worcester, unless any dispute arise, which however if not decided in six months, it was still to devolve to him.

On the first Monday in every month after the first bell in the church of All Saints, the brethren, clergy and laity were all to meet, being summoned before hand, and commendation being said by the prior and chaplains, mass was to be celebrated by note by one of the chaplains deputed for that purpose in his turn, and oblations to be offered by all the co-brethren for the souls of the brethren and all the faithful departed, and as well for the dead as for the living, especially for the infirm brethren prayers were to be said particularly. And in the middle of the month the priest was to celebrate mass for all the brethren then alive, and if any should die the brethren were all to attend his funeral, and were to say every day *placebo et dirige* and one special collect in their mass for thirty days after his decease. The laymen and those who were not priests of the said fraternity were to say for thirty days thirteen paternosters and aves for the soul of the defunct, unless they had rather celebrate one special mass for him. If any brother should be declining to want or fall into sickness, he was to be supported by the alms of the co-brethren for a whole year, or lodged in some hospital by the assistance of the brethren. — They were ordered to promote peace, avoid contentious disputes, extinguish schisms. All the profits of the fraternity and oblations were to be collected by two fit persons, chosen by the prior and priests, and to be kept in the common chest for the necessary uses of the college and for pious uses and almsgivings; they were to render account twice a year of all receipts and expenses. And if the brothers were not present and the masses omitted, they should be fined or expelled the fraternity. In the year 1464 John Bishop of Worcester by deed established the ordinance of the house of Kalendars to settle all disputes betwixt the mayor and the brethren or chauntry priests there, concerning the election of a prior and his duty there; that as often as the prior by death or resignation should become void, the mayor of the town holding consultation with the chaplains or chauntry priests, with the consent of the greater part of them and of the common council of the town, should name and present under the seal of the town to the bishop and his successors within two months a chaplain, a bachelor of divinity, or master of arts, and a scholar in theology sufficiently instructed in holy scripture and preaching of the word, to be prior of the said house of Kalendars, and nothing shall prevent his being instituted and canonically admitted, if he be found fit in all things, &c. And if the mayor defer presenting beyond two months, then it shall be
lawful

lawful for the bishop to confer the priory on one graduate duly instructed, and he ordered that John Shipward, mayor, and his successors should when chosen into their office take their oath to support and defend the said prior and his co-freres or chauntry priests and their tenants in all their rights; and in case of the mayor, &c. not complying, he should lose the presentation to the said priory when void, and it might be then lawful for the chauntry priests themselves to present one duly instructed, &c. for prior to be admitted by the bishop. The prior thus entituled and instituted as before shall constantly reside in the said house, and shall take custody of a certain library newly erected at the bishop's expence in the said house, so that every festival day at two hours before nine, and for two hours after, free access and recess may be granted to all willing to enter for the sake of instruction, and the said prior if duly required shall lay open doubtful and obscure places of scripture to all that ask him according to his best knowledge, and shall read a public lecture every week in the said library according to the appointment of the bishop and his successors: and lest through negligence of the said prior the books should in any wise be alienated or lost, he ordered that three inventories should be made of all the books, one to remain with the dean of Bristol, another with the mayor for the time being, and the other with the said prior, so that as often as any book shall be given or bequeated to the said library, within fifteen days after it is acquired it shall be by the said dean or other honest person appointed by the mayor placed and chained in the said library, and wrote down in some part of the inventory with its true value. He ordered also that once every year there should be a due collation of all the said books with the inventories or catalogues by the dean, prior, and another appointed by the said mayor, on a certain day between the feast of St. Michael and All Saints at their own choice; and if it should happen that some book through neglect of the said prior should be carried out of the said library and stole, the said prior shall restore the said book to the library under penalty of 40s. above its true value; and if he cannot restore it again, then the value of the book and 40s. besides, 20s. to the mayor and the rest for the use of the library, chaining the books, &c. was to belong, and be appropriated to the said library. And it was ordered, that as often as the said prior or any of the chauntry priests should preach within the town of Bristol, in the conventual church of St. Austin, or at the cross near the said church, in their sermons they shall pray for the good state of the bishop whilst living, and for his soul when departed, and also for the good state of the mayor for the time being and true patron of the said house or priory; and the prior, for his personally

personally residing and for his diligence about the library and the books therein deposited, shall annually receive out of the fruits and proceeds of the said house of Kalendars at the four usual terms of the year in equal portions 10l. and the rest of the profits of the said house shall be converted to the support of the rest of the brethren as many as can be supported at the discretion of the bishop and of the prior for the time being, so as none of them shall receive more than twelve marks annually, and the surplus of the profits to be deposited in the common treasury safely for the reparation of the house and its tenements. And if the said prior absent himself for some honest cause, he shall declare the reason, to be approved of or not by the bishop or mayor, so as he may by no means be absent above one month in a year together or at times unless upon very urgent occasion to be approved of by the bishop or mayor, and then in his absence the senior brother shall have the keeping of the said library. All these things more firmly to observe, the prior was to swear at his institution: and that no prior should ever obtain any dispensation contrary to this ordinance, he was to be bound by an oath, under penalty of privation. — Signed by John Harlowe, prior, and John Shipward, mayor, expressing their consent.

In the year 1466 one John Chaunceler of Keynsham gave 100 marks for the reparation and rebuilding of the house of Kalendars and its ruinous tenements, and to augment and promote the divine worship, for which at the instance of the Bishop and of William Canynges mayor patron, the prior was to make four set sermons, two at Keynsham and two at Bristol, (one at the conventual church of St. Austin or at the cross near it, and the other at the church of Redclift,) every year; and in these sermons was to exhort the people to pray for John and Edyth Chaunceler and for their souls after they are departed; and their souls were to be specially named in the bede rolle or memento; and a special collect said every day for their souls by a chaplain and a paternoster and ave maria, and after their deaths solemn exequies by note were to be done in the church of All Saints for the souls of the said John and Edyth.

We may hence conclude, that in the time of W. Canynges mayor a regular library was instituted in Bristol, and open to all so early as 1464, and weekly lectures given at it, which shews literature was not at so low a state here as many would have us imagine; on the contrary that it was early cultivated by this society under the patronage of the Bishop of Worcester and the mayor, and at the very time too in which Rowley is said to have lived and flourished, which those engaged in the controversy about him would do well to observe. — The names of the ^{priors} of this house so little known or noticed by our monastic

tic writers that have come to my knowledge are the following: 1440 John Gyllard—1451 John Hemmynge alias Davy—1464 John Herlow—1526 Roger Eggeworth—1542 Thomas Sylke—12th of Henry the 8th. Wm. Crofs prior.

There were five chauntries belonging to this house and five chaplains or chauntry priests, one of which was chosen prior, though the Bishop of Worcester Lynne in 1369 instituted a chaplain here with this caution, that it should remain as of old it had been, a Fraternity of Kalendars; the society was so ancient and of so long standing, they were at a loss whether to call it a priory or not.

That they preserved the records of the city and registered the public transactions as well as those of their own society is proved by such a kalendar now extant in the chamber of Bristol, written by Robert Ricaut a Kalendar, who was town-clerk here in the reign of Edward the 4th. To him we owe the many curious notices we have not only in the two red books, the book of wills, orphans &c. but more especially in the kalendar or mayor's register, which was first undertaken by him.—He was of this fraternity and seems to have been one of the chaplains above mentioned, and favours Geoffrey of Monmouth as to history and matters of antiquity.

In the beginning of the kalendar he shews his monkish genius and turn of mind. He first exhibits the picture of the infant Christ lying naked, God the Father on one side in the clouds like an old man, and opposite to him the Blessed Virgin on a throne or sella of state, over which is a canopy amidst stars, an angel on the left hand with a trumpet, on the corner of a chequered pavement a matron stirring a posset or bason of broth for the babe, and under the whole these words:

“ In honorem Dei omnipotentis gloriamq; laudem suæ benedictæ matris pro tranquillitate pacis ac prosperitate villam Bristolliaë inhabitantium nec non pro consuetudinibus, ordinationibus libertatibus et franchesiis dictæ villæ melius in posterum conservandis et manutenendis, ad requisitum et mandatum venerabilis viri Willielmi Spencer, majoris de villa et omnium discretorum virorum dicti majoris consultorum ego Robertus Ricaut extunc ibidem communis clericus electus a festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, anno regni regis Edw. 4. post conquestum 18: istum librum incepti composui et conscripsi de diversis croniclis consuedinibusq; legibusq; libertatibus ac aliis memorandis necessariis diversis ad perpetuam rei memoriam inviolabiliter observandis.

Adsit principio Sancta Maria meo. Amen.”

On the other side is written thus :

"Jesús sacri ventris fructus — Piæ matris prece ductus ;

Sit mihi viæ dux eductus — Libenter in hoc opere. Amen.

Thanked be the highe name of our Lord and famous Christe Jesu, excellent glorie & eternal reverence to his blessed moder Seinte Marie, honour laude & due preifinge be to all the saintes of hevyn: for as moche as this noble & worshipful town of Bristowe," &c. Page 1. a.

By the foregoing authentic deeds not only the existence of such a society, but also their place of abode is clear beyond a doubt. Before the Kalendaries were removed to All Saints and had their library in the rood-loft or chamber adjoining to the street on the north side of that church, their house and school were in Wine-street near Christ Church, probably at the corner of High-street, where was their church, formerly one of the four churches round the High Cross, the old ribbed arches in the cellar there still pointing it out. This society had great benefactions bestowed on them, and many grants of land in town and country; their lands are often mentioned in old deeds, some in the Old Market, Baldwin-street, &c. and by an inquisition taken anno 1547, 1st Edward 6th. by John Cottrel, Doctor of Laws, vicar-general to Paul Bush, first Bishop of Bristol, the "Domus Kalendariorum" before its dissolution, paid to the crown 21s. 10½d. and there were two chauntries there, one by Sir Thomas Merryfield, whereof he was priest, rated at 16s. (see p. 62.) In pat. 34, Edward 3d. p. 2. m. 11. the Domus Kalendariorum is mentioned, and an original deed in Latin of John Harlow, prior, and his cofreres under their common seal, dated 6th of Edward 4th. 1466, of lands in Marsh-street was in possession of Peter le Neve, Esq; Norroy. The above does sufficiently evidence the antiquity and reputation of this society, which being dissolved was valued the 26th year of Henry 8th. 1534, at 10l. 18s. 8d. per annum,* and pensions were paid to some of the society after the dissolution. Mayster Leland in his Itinerary thus describes this fraternity, as if he had seen here the above deeds.

Itin. vol. vii. p. 87. "A remembraunce of memorable actes done in Brightstow out of a litle boke of the antiquities of the house of Calendaries in Brightstow.

"The antiquities of the Calendaries were for the moste parte brent by chaunce. The Calendaries otherwyse cawlyd the Gilde or Fraternitie of the Clergie and Commonaltie of Brightstow, and it was firste kepte in the churche of the Trinitie, fens at All Hallowes. The original of this fraternitie is out

K K K

of

* Dugd. Monast. vol. i. p. 1040.

of mynd. Ailarde Mean and Bitrick his funne, Lords of Brightstow, afore the Conqueste. Hamon Erle of Glocester afore the Conquest and Lorde of Brightstow. Roberte, consul, funne to Hamon was Erl of Glocester and Lorde of Brightstow and founder of Tewksbury, &c. Robert Earl of Glocester and Robert Harding translated the fraternity of Calendars from Trinitie to the church of All Hallows. In it were schools for conversion of Jews, &c."

The house where they inhabited after their removal from Christ Church or Trinity adjoined the church of All Saints at the western end, as by the deed appears, and on the site of it was built the London Coffee-house, now a dwelling-house, and the conduit of All Saints; and it possibly extended farther, as at building the Exchange a vast quantity of bones were dug up, possibly out of the burying-ground there of this society. I have a drawing of it under the name of Rowleie, about the year 1467, which he calls "the chyrche oratorie of the Calendars, whereof the western spyre beyng brent, the standeinge parte was pyghte downe, and the refectorie ybuylden wyth ytts roiens. Inn itte was 8 hundred the bookes, in the bochorde meinte Sexonne Hy storie and Lege. Itte was ybuilden by Eva Fytzhardynge and Lewis de Ghente inn 1092."

This account seems to agree with the original deed above mentioned of John Chauncellor of Keynsham, granting 100 marks for rebuilding this house in 1466. The loss sustained by this fire was irreparable, as the society was so ancient, and as the records of the city as well as those of their own fraternity were in effect destroyed by it, so that any uncertainty concerning the first foundation and early state of this city may be easily accounted for, by deriving it from this destructive accident by fire; a loss greatly to be lamented, but never to be repaired.

There was a library room over the north aile of the church of All Saints, not long since to be seen, to which the Kalendars had a communication by a door out of their house, but by late alterations of the church and house adjoining it has been destroyed.

The old church books mention a fire happening here in 1466 through the carelessness of a drunken point-maker, which burnt two houses next the steeple, William Rowley and John Compton being churchwardens that year.

About 1350 Stephen Gnowsale gave this parish a tenement in All Saints-lane, which was made convenient for an almshouse, which was sold for 420l. in 1739, and the south and east part of the Exchange is built on its site, and the scoffees built a new almshouse adjoining to St. John's. In 1400 the grand

grand prior and proctor of the priory of St. James granted the parishioners a little conduit of water, to which the spring rising in the Prior's Orchard (now Bird's garden) was conveyed, and thence in leaden pipes under ground to a public cistern in Corn-street for the use of the city, to which Thomas White, Esq; gave 20s. per annum for its repair in the year 1541, payable by the chamber out of an estate at Hinton Derham, Gloucestershire. This cistern in 1601 was rebuilt at the expence of 125l. 11s. 1d. defrayed by the vestry.

As great part of the Exchange and new market are in this parish, some account of them should find a place here.

In the year 1720 a scheme was set on foot to build an Exchange, but it proved abortive. But in 1721 an act of parliament was obtained to enable the mayor, burgeses, and commonalty of Bristol to build an Exchange, and a committee of fifteen gentlemen were appointed to carry the work into execution and extend their design to a general market, in lieu of those which incumbered the streets of the city, who in the latter end of the year 1738 came to a resolution to purchase the proper lands, and proceed with their intended work. In 1740-1, 30th January, they agreed with Mr. John Wood, a learned and ingenious architect, to contrive a building round an area, for about 600 people to assemble in, in such a manner as to have the outward appearance of one grand structure to front Corn-street, with two taverns in front, the sides for houses, insurance and other public offices, the back part for an arcade with rooms over it, part of the general market.

The 10th of March, 1740-1, the first stone was laid, the following inscription being first cut on its uppermost bed.

Regnanti Georgio II.
 Pio, Felici, Augusto,
 Libertatis et Rei Mercatoriae
 Domi Forisque Vindice
 Primarium Lapidem hujus Aedificii
 Suffragio Civium et Aere publico extructi
 Posuit
 Henricus Combe, Praetor.
 A. C. M.D.CCXL.

Several pieces of new coin were thrown under the stone, which was now laid with great solemnity, amidst ringing of the bells and joyful acclamations of the citizens. The mayor first and the rest of the gentlemen attending striking the stone with a mallet when fixed in its place three times. They then with-

drew from the foundation to the Council-house, where they drank prosperity to the work begun. In the afternoon the populace were treated with ale, upon the Exchange ground, at the chamber expence.

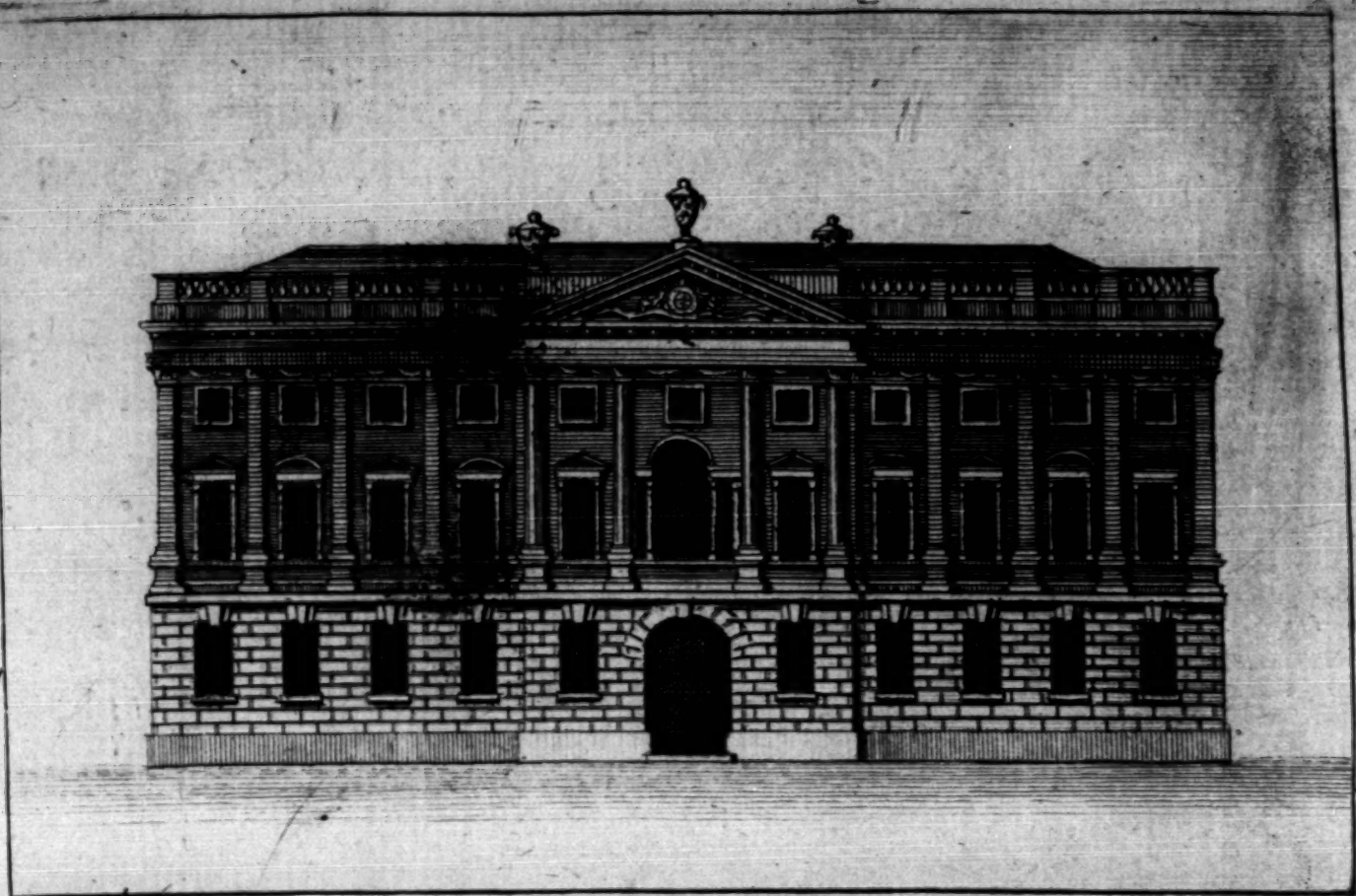
After the work was thus begun, it was carried on according to the strict rules of œconomy, and with all the expedition and dispatch; so that the whole should, now built, extend 110 feet in front, by 148 feet in depth.

This structure is situated almost in the center of the city, and fronts northward to Corn-street. The whole building as well inside as outside is fronted with white freestone of the Corinthian order, upon a rustick basement, or rather a basement composed of regular stones, some with chamfered edges, some with plain edges. The central parts break forwards and make a tetrastyle of almost whole columns, supporting a pediment, in the tympan of which the King's Arms are carved in stone; the chamber windows are dressed with rich tabernacles; the attic windows are square with architraves round them, and they rise no higher than the bottom of the capitals of the order; so that the spaces between the capitals of the columns and pilasters in this front are filled with festoons, which represent Great Britain and the four quarters of the world, with the chief products and manufactures of every country.

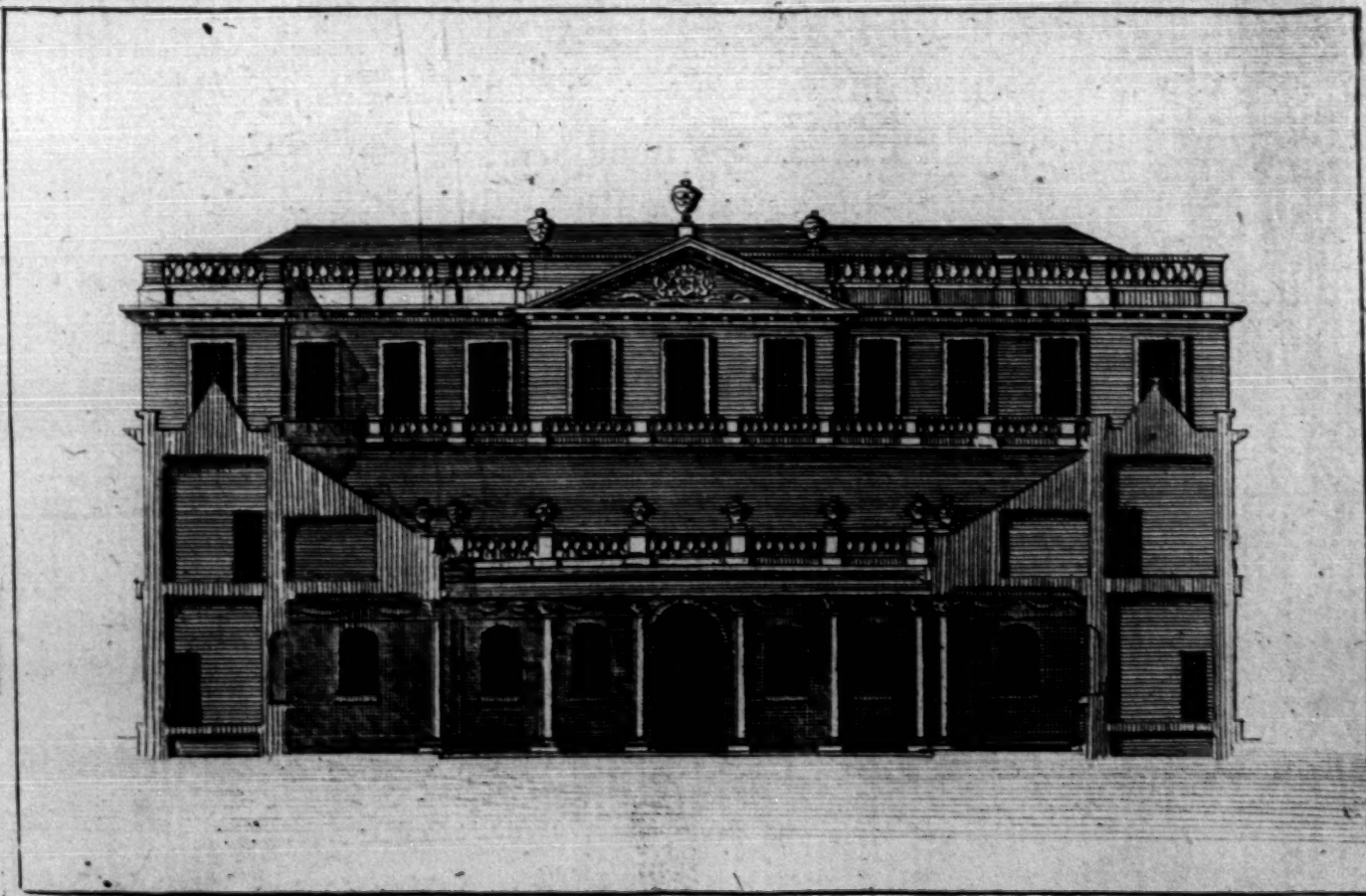
The several parts whereof this front is composed are small, which must be attributed chiefly to the narrow street wherein they are to be viewed; all the mouldings proper to be carved are enriched; the framing of the doors of the front gate is divided in a sort of Mosaic work by large iron nails; the pannels of the doors are adorned with ornaments in cast metal; and the front of the building on each side these doors are defended from the street by deep areas, with handsome iron pallisadoes upon the back walls of those areas.

The south front to the general market is quite regular. The central part of the front breaks forward to support a pediment, in the tympan of which the arms of the city are carved in stone, and over that there is a turret, in the front whereof the dial of a clock is fixed for the use of the market people. The ends of this front break forward likewise and are finished with a dome at each end, upon which there are stone pedestals, wherein some of the funnels of the chimnies are with some difficulty brought up. The domes and pedestals are six feet more in flank than they are in front, which was owing to the increase of the arcade.

The south front and so much of the side fronts as is level with it consists of two stories of building, in which the outside of the arcade appears rusticated, and all the apertures in the remainder of the first story of the side fronts are dressed in the same taste, that is, with stones cut out in a regular form. The windows



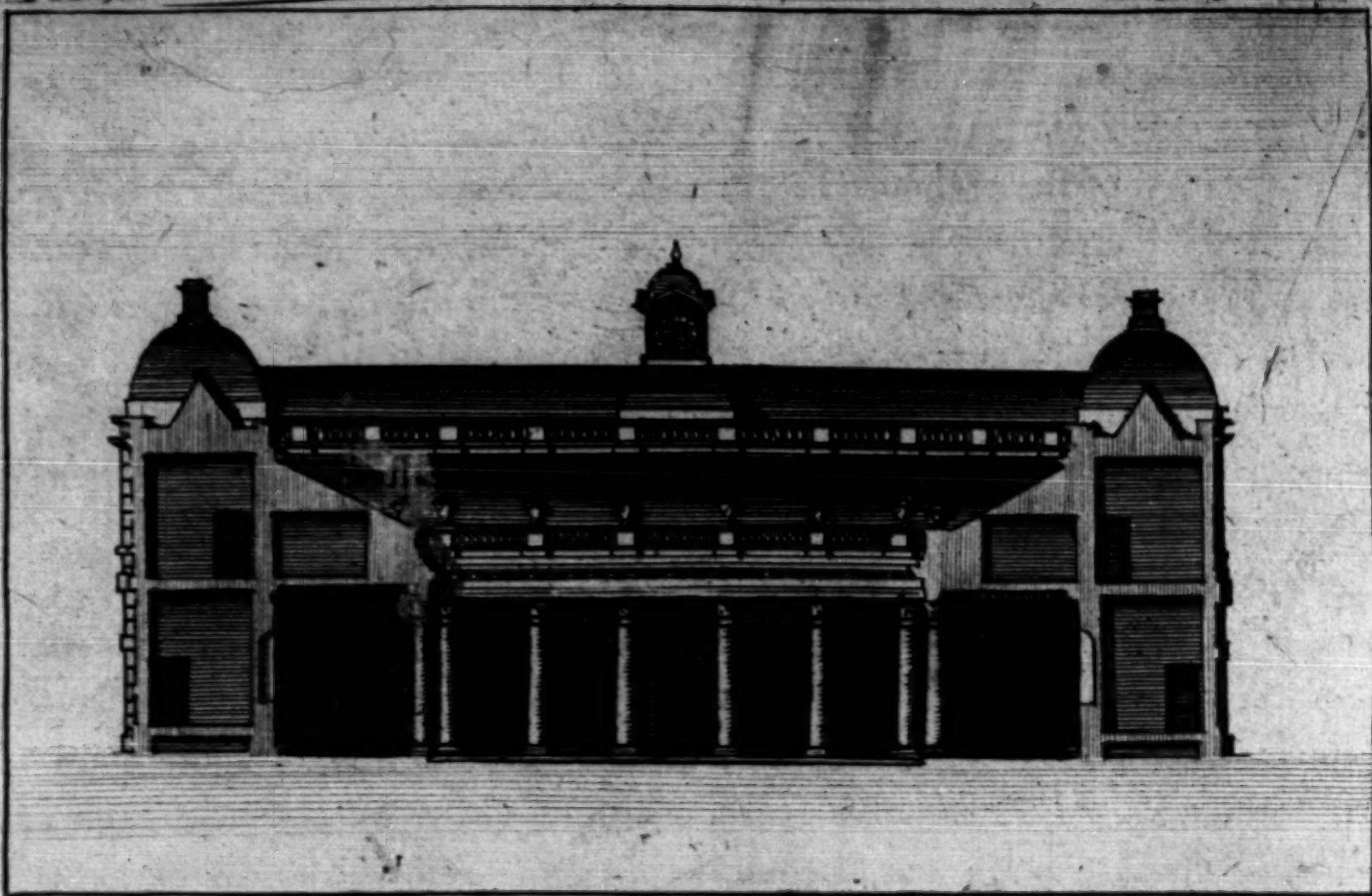
*The ELEVATION of the EXCHANGE of BRISTOL
as it fronts North to Corn Street.*



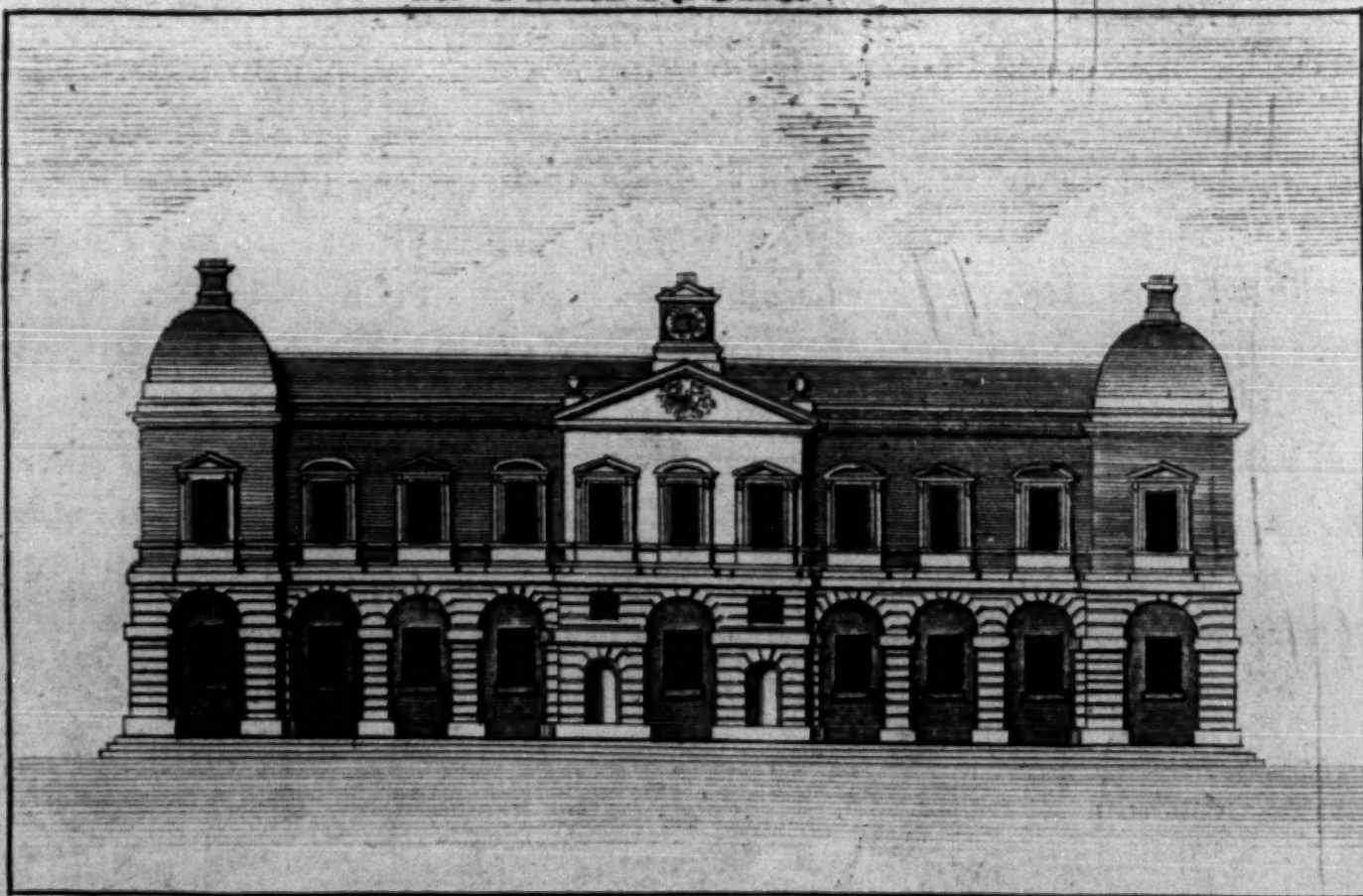
*The ELEVATION of the EXCHANGE of BRISTOL
as it fronts South to the PERISTYLE of that Structure
Together with the SECTION of the Building on each Side the
PERISTYLE.*







*The ELEVATION of the EXCHANGE of BRISTOL
as it fronts North to the PERISTYLE. of that Structure
Together with the SECTION of the Building on each Side.
the PERISTYLE.*



*The ELEVATION of the EXCHANGE of BRISTOL
as it fronts South to the General Market.*

windows over the arcade are of the tabernacle kind, as well as the central windows of the second story of the side fronts.

The roof over the vestibules and over the middle of the arcade is finished with domes supporting stone turrets, and those domes are so contrived as to appear part of the architecture of the inside of the building, in those turrets some of the funnels of the chimnies of the back work are with difficulty brought up. The turret facing the principal entrance of the Exchange has a clock and dial placed therein, for the use of such as frequent the place of Exchange. The merchants arms adorn the west front of the turret on the east side of the peristyle, as a compliment for their benefaction of 2000*l.* towards the work, and the most ancient arms of the city are carved on the east front of the turret on the west side of the place of Exchange. See the prints.

The building was so far compleated by the beginning of August, 1743, that the 21st of September was named as the day on which it should be opened. The corporation of Bristol having ordered that the market, which was to have been held on Wednesday the 21st of that month, should be kept upon Tuesday the 20th, and public notice was accordingly given by the crier, upon Friday before the Exchange was opened the chamber resolved to discharge at the city expence the poor prisoners confined in Newgate for debt, that every citizen might enjoy liberty upon the day of opening the Exchange. They also resolved to treat the workmen employed in the building with a handsome dinner, and directed that bread and wine should be ready at the Council-house, after the Exchange should be opened, for all gentlemen without distinction to refresh themselves with.

The mayor of Bristol, Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. invited the corporation and society of merchants to dine with him at the Merchants-hall upon the day of opening the Exchange, and proposed to the masters of the several trading companies to treat the members of those companies with wine at their respective halls, which was accordingly performed.

As the Exchange is the sole property of the corporation of Bristol, so it was ordered that the ceremony of opening it should consist in the corporation meeting the society of merchants and other traders of the city at the Guildhall in Broad-street, in walking with them from that hall in procession to the Exchange. Now the dawn of the day appointed for doing all this was proclaimed to town and country, by the discharge of several cannons from Brandon-hill, and then the morning was ushered in with ringing of bells. The ships were soon dressed with their proper colours; flags were displayed upon some of the churches, and the streets through which the procession was to be made were by an order of the magistrates swept and cleared from every annoyance.

The

The same morning the mayor made a present of five guineas to the master workmen of the building to drink to the good success of the Exchange and prosperity to the city of Bristol. He also gave them 25l. to be expended in wine and other liquors upon their men. Soon after this the keeper of Newgate carried the prisoners confined in that gaol for debt to the mayor's house, and Mr. Mayor after releasing them at the chamber expence gave each person something to begin the world with. He likewise ordered the poor people in the Merchants' almshouse, &c. to be entertained in a handsome manner, that the hearts of all denominations of men in the city might be cheered upon the day of opening this building.

Ten o'clock was the time appointed for the general meeting of such as were concerned in the ceremony of opening the Exchange, by which hour the parties began to repair to the Guildhall, and then as the weather was fine the streets and houses were soon lined with an infinite number of people from all parts of the town and country. At eleven the procession began from that hall in the following order, or as near it as it was possible for the companies to fall in with the train. — Mr. Colston's boys under the tuition of their master led the way, and they were followed by the city hospital boys governed by the mayor and aldermen, then came the exchange-keeper with a noble staff in his hand, and he was followed by the incorporated companies of the city in their formalities, with their colours borne before them, with each of their respective wardens. The masons company went 1st, tylers 2d. porters 3d. hal-liers 4th. carpenters 5th. tobacco-pipe-makers 6th. turners 7th. hatters 8th. fadlers 9th. innholders 10th. bakers 11th. butchers 12th. tanners 13th. cord-wainers 14th. wire-drawers 15th. joiners 16th. dyers 17th. whitetawers 18th. hoopers 19th. smiths 20th. surgeons 21st. (with music before them) weavers 22d. taylors 23d. The city music with the addition of two French horns went next after these companies, and they were succeeded by the city officers, who walked according to their ranks, with the steward of the sheriff's court in his barristers habit, and the chamberlain in his gown bearing a mace of gold. The town clerk was ill, and could not attend the procession. Then came the corporation in their scarlet robes, with their sword of state borne before them by the sword-bearer in his gown and cap of maintenance. The mayor and mayor elect went first, the senior alderman, and after them the rest of the corporation according to their seniority. To these succeeded the master, wardens, assistants, and members of the Merchants-hall, and the whole was closed with a long train of coaches and chariots to 48 in number.

This procession passed up Broad-street, down High-street, and so on to the Back, from thence they went into Queen's-square at the north-east corner, and
passing

passed through the streets on the east and south side of that spacious area, came out upon the lower end of the Key opposite the place where the Princess Augusta, a letter of marque ship, lay repairing from the damages she had received, in the last of four victorious battles with the Spanish privateers in the present war, one of which privateers her captain blew up in the king's channel, and was particularly rewarded by the Admiralty for his gallantry, good conduct and courage in that brave action. From this glorious object the procession was continued up the Key, and then from the north end of it the parties entering Small-street passed from that street to the Exchange.

This circuit of ground was about 2000 yards in length, the whole train of people and coaches extended about three quarters of a mile, and the procession lasted about two hours, during which time the bells kept ringing and the cannons firing.

When the corporation came to the Exchange they entered the building by the gate in the north front, passed through the hall to the peristyle,* walked along the porticos thereof to the west, and from thence came towards the center of the piazza, where an haut-pas or rather a square plinth† was prepared, which Thomas Stevens, Esq; steward of the sheriff's court, directly ascended from the east side. Then the mayor commanded silence to be kept, and the doors of the front gate which were shut to keep out the populace to be opened, after which Mr. Stevens addressed himself to the merchants and tradesmen, by the order of the corporation first named the building, and then gave them the use of the peristyle of it for a place of Exchange in a long speech.

When the speech was ended the mayor began three huzzas, then Mr. Stevens retired, and Mr. Thomas Fane, clerk of the Merchants-hall, took his place, and addressing himself to the corporation in these words :

“ Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen of the Corporation,

“ The merchants are very sensible of the obligations they are under to
 “ you, for the great care you have taken in building this Exchange, and I am
 “ commanded in this public manner to return you their thanks for the same.”

This being over, Mr. Mayor began three huzzas, after which the corporation and society of merchants with the music before them, &c. walked to the Council-house, where they were refreshed with wine, and from thence in their coaches went to the Merchants-hall to a dinner which was prepared for them. The respective companies also retired to their respective halls, to regale themselves with the wine Mr. Mayor had presented them with, and the evening of the

* Peristyle is a place encompassed with pillars standing round about on the inside.

† A plinth is the lowermost part of the foot of a pillar, being the form of a tile or square brick.

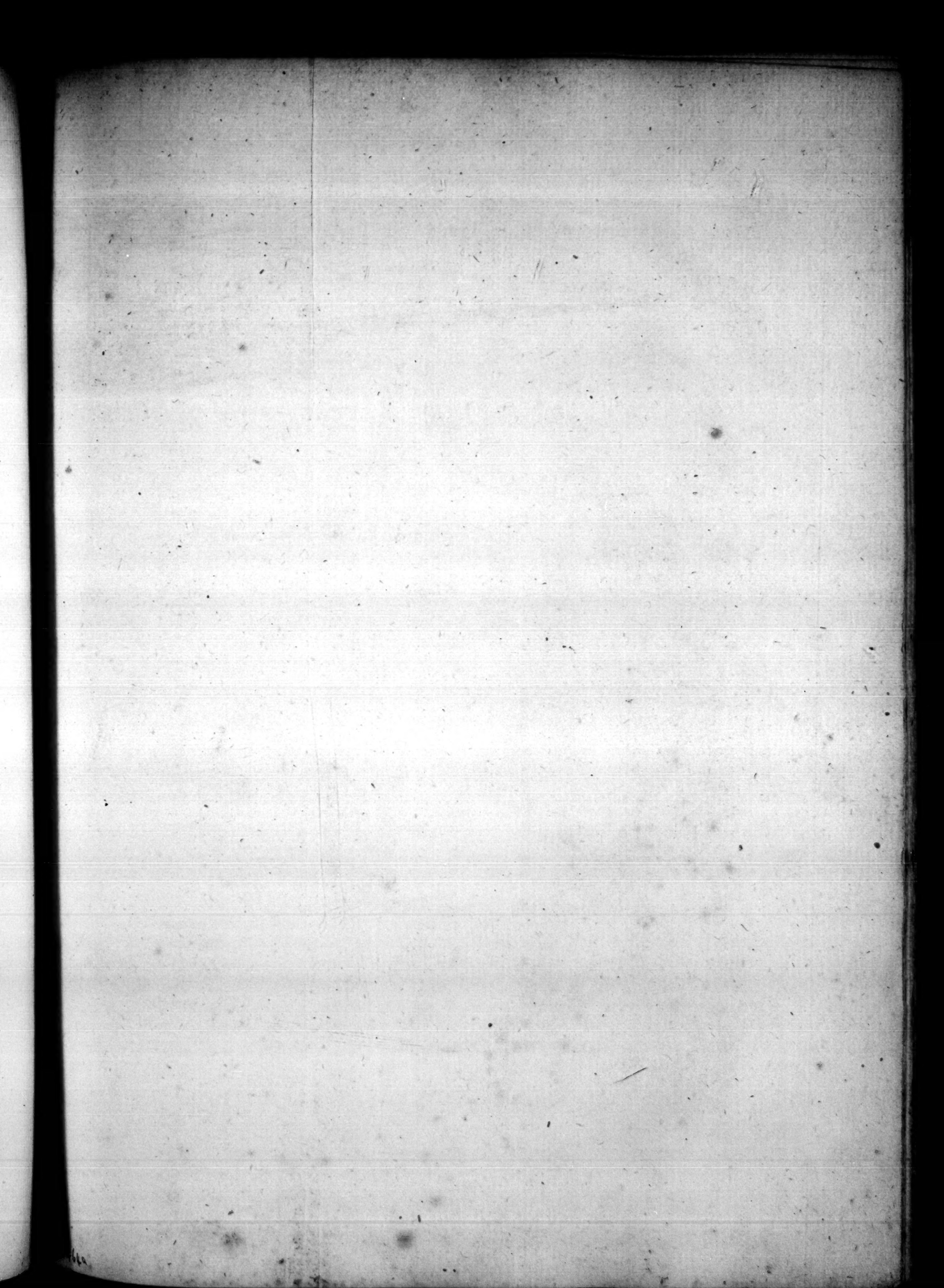
this day was concluded with ringing of bells, discharging guns, and making bonfires in proper places: all which with the whole transactions of the day was conducted without any ill accident, or any of those disorders too frequently committed at public rejoicings, which may be attributed to this, that the festival of opening the Exchange was in the nature of it agreeable to all parties, and if pageantry on this occasion had been thought necessary, the public had certainly been gratified with it. But what pageantry could exceed a solemn procession of the magistrates and whole collective trading body of a city, that pays the government a custom for their goods of above 150,000l. a year?

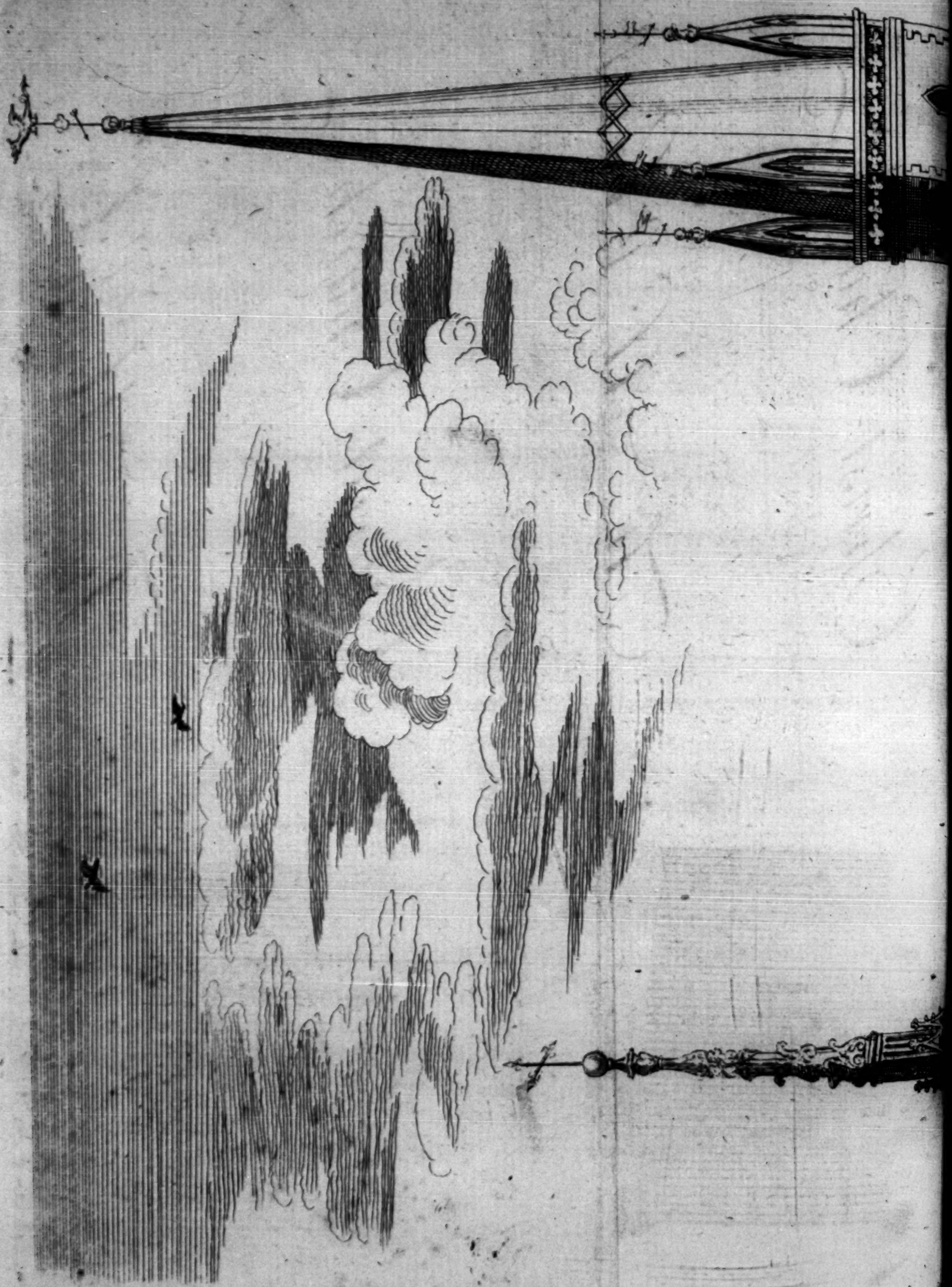
The first Wednesday after Lady-day, being March 27, 1743, the General Market behind the Exchange was first opened.

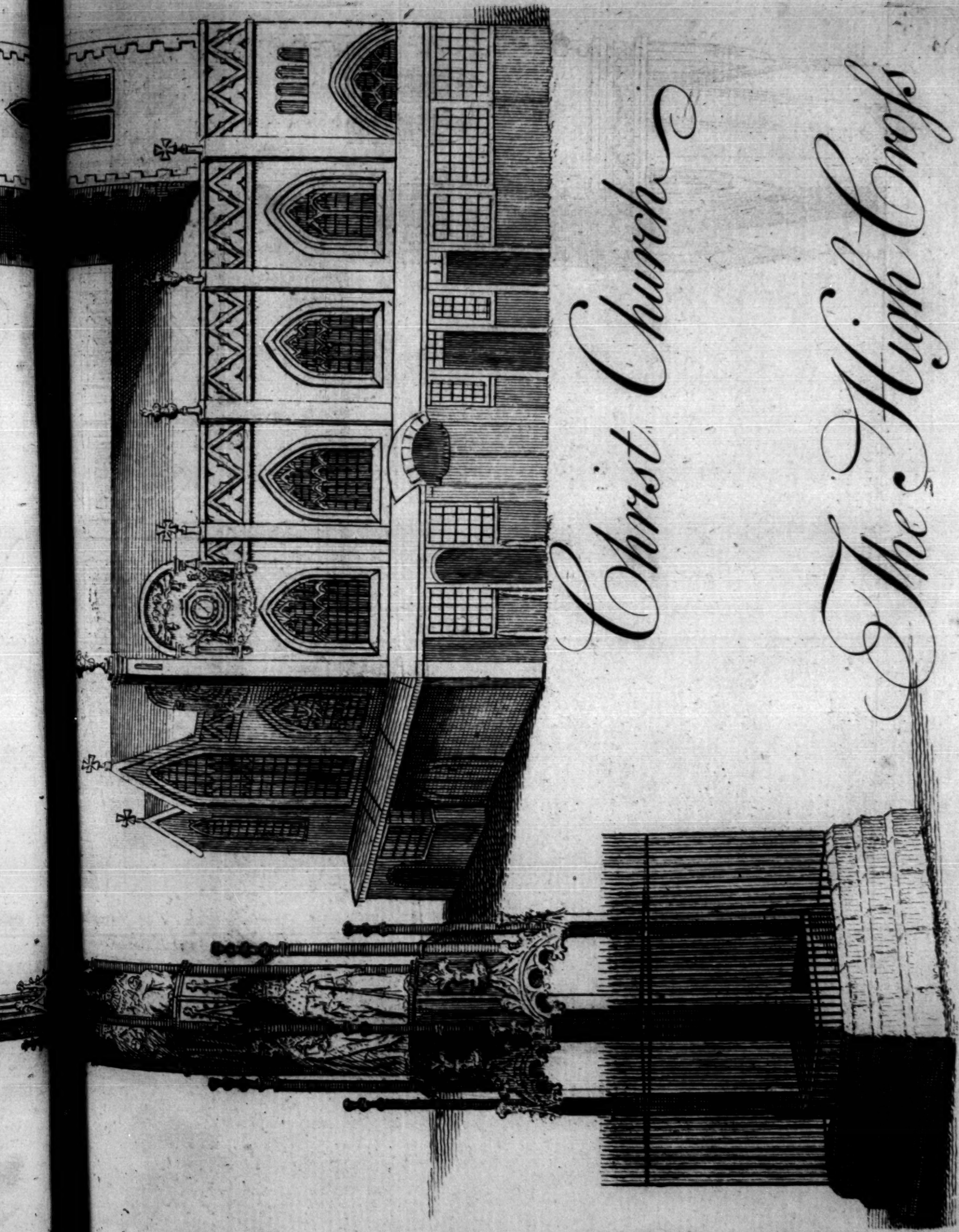
C H A P. XV.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of the HOLY TRINITY or CHRIST CHURCH, with St. EWEN's consolidated.

CHRIST Church is a rectory rated in the King's Books at 3l. 8s. clear: its Yearly Tenths, now discharged, 1l. 2s. It is of very great antiquity, though the exact time when founded is a little uncertain. Rowley's manuscript says, "it was founded 920 by Ella, lord-warden of the castle, and that it was spired by Alricvs Sneaw in 1004," perhaps Aylwardus Sneaw. It is certain in taking down part of the spire to rebuild it in 1765 a date in lead was found let into the stone near the top 1003 or 1004, as the workmen affirmed; and in 1787, when this church was taken down to be rebuilt, a statue of a Saxon earl sitting in a niche was discovered walled in at the front, designed very probably for the founder of it, either Ella above mentioned or Aylwardus Sneaw, in whose time the fraternity of Kalendaries flourished here. But its antiquity is fully ascertained from its being the residence of that society before the Conquest. Philip the priest in 1153 granted a moiety of this church







Christ Church

The High Cross



church which he possessed to the church of Tewksbury, in the time of Robert Earl of Gloucester, which was confirmed by Earl William and John Bishop of Worcester. (See Stephens, vol. ii. No. 161, 31. Add. to Dugd.)

The Earls of Gloucester were patrons to present to this benefice, and it is thence most probable that the Saxon earls were the founders, and Robert Fitzhaymon and Robert Earl of Gloucester his son-in-law received it from them as part of the honour of Gloucester. It is certain, that the latter founded the priory of St. James, (which see) and made it a cell to the abby of Tewksbury, and this church being an appendage to the same abby, by right of patronage paid a pension or yearly rent to it of 10s. As that abbot and convent had the patronage, so not content with that in the year 1469 they procured of John Bishop of Worcester the appropriation of it, whereby they got the whole profits of the church, a common artifice with them, which has laid the foundation of so many poor vicarages now, they finding only a chaplain to do the duty, and paying to the church of Worcester yearly 3s. 4d. and to the archdeacon of Gloucester 3s. 4d. but this appropriation was after some time revoked by the bishop.

“ In this church, says Leland, was fyrste kepte the Calendars, otherwise called the Gilde or Fraternitie of the Clergie and Commonaltie of Brightstowe, but sene removed to All Hallows. The original of it is owt of mynde.” He there (Itin. vol. vii. f. 87, 88.) mentions their having been translated thither by Robert Fitzharding, Robert Earl of Gloucester, and William his son, all out of a book of the antiquities of the Kalendars. The prior and brethren here are mentioned in pat. 34. Edw. 3. p. 2. m. 11.

This church was no very beautiful structure. It stands upon the north quarter of the center of the town, where four streets meet, High-street and Broad-street, Corn-street and Wine-street. It was a low building of the model of a quarter cathedral, the tower being very near in the center; from the ground to the battlements of the tower about 70 feet high, on the center of which a spire of freestone rose about the same height, on which was a copper dragon, instead of a weather-cock. The tower handsome, very high, and had four pinnacles of solid freestone about 12 feet high, with copper vanes on them. In the tower was a peal of ten bells, which chimed at the hour of one, six, and eleven, with two dial plates to the clock at the west end of the south aisle, one facing Corn-street and the other High-street; on the sides of this dial were two men carved in wood, with a hammer in the hand of each that struck a bell every quarter of an hour.

The middle aile in length from the high altar to the west door was 94 feet, from the ground to the cieling of the same aile 41 feet high, the length of the chancel 18 feet. The north and south ailes each 59 feet long. The body of the church was supported on the north and south side with four arches and five pillars. The width of the church from the north to the south door 54 feet. — William of Worcester (p. 216) says, "The length of the church of the Holy Trinity is 22 yards, its breadth 35 steps. The road of High-street there at the High Crosse is 24 steps broad, of Wynch-street 16 steps, of Broad-street 14 steps, of Corn-street at the High Crosse 14 steps."

There was a good organ belonging to this church.

In the year 1751 this church was greatly repaired and beautified and new pewed. A new strong arch was turned under the belfry by the pulpit with inverted arch under ground. The old tower-stairs were at the same time converted into solid wall and filled up, to strengthen and support the tower, which was much cracked, and a new stair-case was made in the churchyard. Also a strong arch was built under the old one at the east end of the south aile. The organ was gilt and repaired. After this church had been two years and ten month repairing, it was opened for divine service on Sunday, November 18, 1753. The expence of the whole was 1500l.

But in the year 1783 the walls of the church and roof were found to be so very ruinous and decayed, that the 2d of June application was made to parliament, and leave given to bring in a bill for rebuilding it and widening the streets near it. And 1786 they began pulling it wholly down, and in 1788 it was rebuilt on the same ground, only allowing some space to widen the street there, and will soon exhibit a beautiful structure in the center of the city, and afford a good accommodation for the parishioners resorting to it. The new spire is beautiful, and the whole building much admired, and is a great ornament to the center of the city, as you go up High-street.

In the year 1547 were sequestered to the king's use all fruits, profits, and emoluments whatsoever, &c. for non-payment of subsidies and tenths due 1 May and 25 December last. See p. 63.

In 1491 Richard Erle, Esq; by will gave nineteen tenements and a garden to find a chaplain daily in the chapel of St. Michael in the church of Holy Trinity, to officiate for ever at mass for the soul of himself and Thomas his wife.

The 24th of Henry 5th. Balle's chauntry of Brystoe was established, the priest to have 8l. per annum. Sir John Chyewe presented.

Some

Some of the lands with which these chauntries were endowed through oversight were not taken to by the crown so late as the 15th of Elizabeth, for William Yate, late sheriff, and Thomas Fawcet, of this parish, proctors, set forth that they had received the rents of sundry messuages, &c. since the dissolution of chauntries, and had usually employed the same among other rents for the wages of the priest, curates, and clerks of the parish, the ornaments of the church and the charges of such preaching, and the relief of the poor; but that they were often constrained to suits of law for the defence of the title to the premises: and it appearing that the queen had some title thereto by the statute of 1 Edward 6th. (divers of the tenements having been employed before to superstitious uses) they solicited to purchase them of the queen, who by letters patent, July 13, in the 30th year of her reign, granted the same to the churchwardens and parishioners the 10th of January, 31 Elizabeth, under certain quit rents; and they for a perpetual continuance of the same to the parish enfeoffed the same to the mayor Aldworth and fourteen others of the parish, that they might apply the same tenements to the uses afore mentioned in future. When the feoffees are reduced to six or four persons, a new feoffment was to be made to fourteen others, &c. which was continued to be renewed to the present. The rector in 1776 had some dispute with the feoffees on account of his prevailing on the vestry to grant 100l. if he could get another 100l. as a gift from the corporation the patrons, procuring 400l. Queen Ann's bounty to his church, which he obtained; but the feoffees judging it a misapplication of the church stock in the vestry's granting this 100l. refused to allow it. This putting the rector upon an enquiry into his right to certain wages paid him out of the church stock, sometimes 25l. sometimes 30l. per annum, as a gift of the vestry he found that he had a just right and claim even to more than they allowed him as a boon, and therefore as they refused him to examine the parish deeds and papers locked up from him, he filed a bill in chancery in October, 1776, which was answered by the feoffees and a few of the vestry, and the cause was heard May 6, 1780, after great trouble and expence to the rector, and the court declared the charity must be confirmed, and the lands, &c. appropriated as in the deeds of 31 Elizabeth, &c. The 18th of June, 1782, the master it was referred to made his report, and the rector was now confirmed in having the sum of 80l. per annum for ever from the 25th of March, 1772.

The other appropriations were,		l.	s.	d.
Gifts to the poor and interest of monies whereto they are entitled		43	10	0
A tenement bequeathed to the organist	- - -	20	0	0
A gift to the rector, clerk, and sexton, for a sermon	-	3	11	0
A gift to the church	- - - - -	5	0	0
Sheriff's dues	- - - - -	4	1	4
Ground rent to the chamber of Bristol	- - -	1	12	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		£ 77 15 0 $\frac{1}{2}$		

The anxiety the "law's delay" in this suit gave the rector, it was thought, very much impaired his health, as he considered himself very unjustly oppressed and persecuted by the feoffees in this matter: it is certain he visibly declined in his health, had several fits of illness, and a paralytic stroke, of which he for sometime recovered, but at last in May, 1785, died suddenly, about three years after the decision of this cause, which will be of such benefit to his successor, having been at a very great expence, which he could ill afford, and not living long enough to receive any advantage from it.

The law expence out of the church stock for this suit amounted to upwards of 1400l. much wanted then to repair or rebuild the church, and to which it had been much better applied.

RECTORS of Christ Church.

PATRONS.

Abbot and convent of Tewksbury.	1147	Philip —, priest.
	1282	William de Lachefferd.
	1294	John de Hawkefbure.
	1296	John de Bredon.
	1298	Ricardus de —.
	1323	William de Bekeford: taxatur ecclesia ad xx libr.
	1360	Thomas de Aston.
	1369	William de Overynghon.
	1406	Johannes Pedewelle.
	1415	Thomas Drayton, a Lollard, preached against image worship and the proud religious, &c.
	1421	John Wright.
	1425	William Fydian.
	1427	John Dyer.
	1450	John Fytswarren, died 1455.
	1456	John Stephys.

PATRONS.

- 1462 John Drover, A. M.
 John Carew.
 Lawrence Cokkys.
- 1485 William Jonys.
- 1510 John Godryche, S. T. P.
- 1538 Johannes Terrel.
- Corporation. 1588 Morgan Jones, died 1616.
- 1616 Nicholas Leigh.
- 1618 Edward Shaw. Had a rectory-house in the Pithay granted him, and taken away 1683.
- 1621 Morgan Williams.
- 1630 Richard Standfast, rector 51 years: being blind, his son John assisted him. See his monument, epitaph, &c.
- 1682 Charles Brent.
- 1729 William Smith.
 Daniel Debat, D. D.
- 1785 Thomas Ireland, D. D.

M O N U M E N T S.

Amongst the memorials of the dead that deserve our notice is a very singular little mural monument in the chancel. It is inscribed to the Rev. Dr. Standfast, is a plain white marble table, with an hour-glass in a kind of pediment on the top, and a death's head below it.

"Near this place lieth the body of Richard Standfast, Master of Arts, of Sidney College in Cambridge, and chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty King Charles 1st. who for his loyalty to the king and stedfastness in the established religion suffered fourteen years sequestration. He returned to his place in Bristol at the restoration of King Charles 2d. was then made prebendary of the cathedral church of Bristol, and for twenty years and better (notwithstanding his blindness) performed the offices of the church exactly, and discharged the duties of an able, diligent, and orthodox preacher. He was rector of Christ Church upwards of fifty-one years, and died August 24, in the 78th year of his age, and in the year of our Lord 1681.

He shall live again."

The following verses were composed by himself to be put upon his monument, and were taken from his own mouth two days before his death:

Jacob

Jacob was at Bethel found,
 And so may we, though under ground.
 With Jacob there God did intend
 To be with him where'er he went,
 And to bring him back again,
 Nor was that promise made in vain.

Upon which words we rest in confidence
 That he which found him there will fetch us hence.
 Nor without cause are we persuaded thus,
 For where God spake with him, he spake with us.

This worthy divine suffered greatly in the time of the rebellion, besides being deprived of this his living, which was given to one Evans, a taylor, he was in March, 1645-6, confined in Bristol castle, "for his disaffection to the Parliament of England and their proceedings, which in his printing, praying, and preaching he had expressed." However during his sequestration and troubles he was so well beloved by the vestry of Christ Church, that they contributed to his support by an annual salary during his absence from them, as appears by a letter in the hand of Dean Towgood, a fellow sufferer with him, complaining of his parishioners of St. Nicholas not acting so generously to him as the others did to Dr. Standfast.

Dr. Standfast was so noted and well-received a preacher in this city, that he was appointed by the mayor and corporation (of which body some of his ancestors had been) to preach the public lectures at several churches, gift sermons appointed by benefactors to the city.

He published a little tract, called, A Handful of Cordial Comfits, which breathes a true Christian spirit, and shews his true and orthodox principles. — It was reprinted in the year 1767 by his great grandson, Mr. Standfast Smith, apothecary. Also a Caveat against Seducers.

He was once pursued by his malicious accusers, but putting on the habit of a thatcher, where he lay concealed near Thornbury, in Gloucestershire, he was, when they came to look for him, actually upon the house, pretending to be busy at his work.

There were but few monuments in this church; one with the following inscription to the Rev. Charles Brent, rector of this parish: — "Reverendus Carolus Brent, A. M. antiquâ stirpe oriundus, hujus ecclesiæ rector St. Werburgæ vicarius, ac canonicus residentiarius menevensis cum duabus uxoribus totidemque liberis juxta requiescit; concionator erat egregius, assiduus, perpolitus: vitæ probitate ornavit et splendore sermonum illustravit. Magnas Christianæ

tianæ religionis veritates, difficillimas theologiæ quæstiones mirâ sagacitate explicare ac latentem veritatem eruere optimè novit. cum acumine ingenii, suavitate morum animi candore, benevolentia eruditione, modestiâ inter plurimos excelluisset, emigravit, Jun. 13, A. D. 1729, ætatis 63."

Another monument near with the following inscription: — "Hic juxta reconditur Elizabetha Samuelis Pye, chirurgi uxor perdilecta, obstetrix fida, prudens, perita remimiscimini, lectores, quarum ope nascimur; dein vitâ probe functæ haud inviti recordamini obiit 28 Apr. 1725."

Underneath was an inscription to that eminent surgeon Mr. Samuel Pye, who was buried here September 20, 1759.

Juxta etiam requiescit Samuel Pye,
qui variâ scientiâ, experienciâ longâ
et judicio sagaci in morbis difficilioribus
sanandis chirurgiam et obstetriciam
in hac urbe summa ad fastigia
provexit:
probitate morum intaminatâ, constanti,
infenescens, honore plenus ac annis
hanc vitam meliori commutavit.

20 Sept. 1759,

Æt. 74.

In the first cross aile was a brass plate with a device of two hands holding up a heart, out of which proceed three scrolls, on which the following words were inscribed: — "Credo quod redemptor meus vivit, de terrâ surrecturus sum, in carne mea videbo Dominum salvatorem meum." And underneath the following epitaph: — "Orate pro animabus Thomæ Balle, burgenfis villæ Bristolæ et Aliciæ uxoris suæ et pro illa Margerettæ filiæ eorundem qui quidem Thomas, obiit A. D. 1400, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus."

On a freestone on the ground: — "Hic jacet Johannis Seynte, obiit 1467."

On a stone is an inscription to Francis Glead, who, having done well for the poor departed this life, June, 1, 1661, ætatis 67.

If stewards will be true to their intent,

Their works shall be a lasting monument.

In the middle aile on a stone: — "To Susanna the wife of Austin Goodwin, linen-draper, and daughter of Cornelius Lyde, of Stanton Wick, Esq; Somerset. She died the 13th of June, 1738, ætatis 59."

"To Robert Yate, of this city, merchant, who died the 31st of December, 1682, aged 67."

In

In the chancel was a brass figure of a man with three scrolls coming from his heart: — "Credo quod redemptor meus, &c." And underneath the following: — "Hic jacet magister Johannis Fitzwarren quondam rector hujus ecclesiæ, qui obiit 6 Sept. 1455, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus."

The following are the particular BENEFACTORS to this parish.

1594,	Robert Kitchen gave 4l. 12s. per annum, 10s. a quarter to the poor, and 52s. in bread	l.	s.	d.
		92	0	0
1636,	Henry Yate gave a chief rent of 4l. per annum, 1l. for a sermon and 3l. for the poor.			
1639,	George Harrington gave 2l. per annum, 10s. a quarter to poor housekeepers	40	0	0
1640,	Abel Kitchen gave 2l. 12l. per annum to the poor in bread	52	0	0
1661,	Francis Gleed gave a chief rent of 3l. per annum, 1l. for a sermon and 2l. for the poor.			
1668,	Thomas Farmer gave lands of 2l. per annum for bread or coal for the poor.			
	Arthur Farmer gave 2l. per annum, to be laid out in lands, the produce to be given to six poor families	40	0	0
1676,	Robert Markham gave 10s. per annum in bread for the poor on St. James's-day	10	0	0
1678,	Edward Hearn gave 2l. per annum in bread for the poor on St. James's-day	40	0	0
1684,	Elizabeth Hearn gave 10s. per annum in bread for the poor on St. James's-day	10	0	0
	Mrs. Boucher and Langton gave lands in Bedminster of 8ol. per annum to poor widows of the city, of which this parish has a share, at 10s. each.			
1685,	William Colston gave 5l. per annum to six poor housekeepers	100	0	0
1686,	Philip Tiler gave 10s. per annum to one poor housekeeper	10	0	0
1687,	Martha Lane gave 10s. per annum to the poor the 22d of December	10	0	0
1688,	John Lawford gave 2l. 10s. per annum to the poor in bread to be given every Sunday	50	0	0
	Nicholas Shute gave a tenement of 2l. per ann. to the poor.			
1701,	Arthur Grant gave 10s. per annum to two poor widows	10	0	0
1708,	Sir William Clutterbuck gave 2l. 10s. per annum, 1l. for a sermon, 10s. to the clerk, and the remainder to the poor in bread	50	0	0
		1712,		

		l.	s.	d.
1712,	Mary Grant gave 10s. per annum to two poor widows	10	0	0
1740,	Nicholas Baker gave 2l. 10s. per annum to four poor widows	50	0	0
	Alderman Gibbs gave a chief rent of 3l. per ann. to the poor.			
	George Saltern gave a chief rent of 2s. per ann. to the poor.			
1715,	Alice Sloper gave 100l. for the use of the church.			
1767,	Robert Bolter gave 3l. 10s. per annum to the poor	-	100	0 0
	Avis Brown gave 14s. per annum to the poor	-	20	0 0
	— Cox gave 10s. per annum to the poor in coal	-	10	10 0

This parish is possessed of various estates for charitable uses, to promote divine service, to repair the church, and relieve the indigent, amounting to about 160l. per annum in 1759, besides fines for renewals on so many leasehold tenements: though the expences of repairing the church from time to time and some ill-judged law suits have greatly impaired their income, that they were obliged to solicit the benevolence of the public towards rebuilding the church in 1787.

The Bristol High Cross was first erected near this church, in the center, where four streets meet. See the plate.

The year 1373 may be deemed the æra from which Bristol may date some of its greatest improvements, and the citizens in commemoration of Edward 3d.'s separating it from the county of Gloucester and constituting it a county within itself, and fixing its pomerium or boundaries by an ample charter for that purpose, rebuilt the removed Cross on the very spot where the old one stood, embellished it in a most superb manner, and placed King Edward 3d. together with three preceding royal benefactors, very well carved for the time, in the vacant niches of the then perhaps defaced saints. Thus gratitude and the loyalty of the citizens were the laudable motives to this undertaking.

King John was placed northward fronting Broad-street. He gave the city the first and very extensive charter of privileges, especially all the void ground on the banks of the rivers, thereby "to amend the town by building," &c. vide annals for the year.

King Henry 3d. was fixed fronting Wine-street eastward. He confirmed Henry 2d's. charter, that established it a mayor town and that of King John, and joined Redcliff to Bristol, making it one corporate town. Vide annals.

King Edward 3d. was fixed towards Corn-street westward. He made Bristol a county of itself, &c. as above. Annals 1373, the year of re-erecting the Cross in High-street by voluntary contributions.

King Edward 4th. they added afterwards to the other three figures, placing him to front High-street southward. Vide annals, 1461.

Thus it stood greatly admired for its antiquity and for its ornaments in which they had been very lavish for at least 260 years; but in the year 1633 the city having continued to receive fresh and repeated instances of royal favour, and the Cross itself by this time perhaps wanting some necessary repairs, it was this year taken down in part, enlarged, and raised higher in the same style of architecture, and four other statues of kings were now added.

Henry 6th. was placed in a new niche eastward. He granted and confirmed all the charters of his predecessors. Annals.

Queen Elizabeth was placed westward, who had also confirmed the charters.

King Charles 1st. northward. He granted a new charter, and sold the castle and its dependencies to the city, which to the great annoyance of the inhabitants was before out of the mayor's jurisdiction.

King James 1st. who had renewed the charters, was placed southward.

By this additional superstructure and the new figures, it became an object still more admired by strangers and more esteemed by the citizens. It was therefore now most curiously painted and gilded and inclosed with an iron pallisade, and surrounded with freestone steps, where all public proclamations were read to the people, and which served the market people to sit round when the market was kept in High-street. These improvements cost the chamber 207l. and its height from the ground was 39 feet 6 inches.

In the year 1697 in such a public estimation was this Cross held that it was thought proper to have it fresh painted and gilded, which was done in such a costly manner, that no cross in the kingdom is said then to have exceeded it.

Here it stood a public ornament to the city and the admiration of strangers resorting hither, especially all lovers of antiquity, until the year 1733 a silversmith who lived fronting it, out of enmity to this structure so esteemed by others, offered to swear before the magistrates that every high wind his house and life were endangered by the Cross shaking and threatening to fall (though it was not generally then believed) and so requested its removal. On this pretence and of its obstructing the road by filling up the street, it was taken down and thrown by in the Guildhall as a thing of no value, though its removal was much regretted by most of the citizens. Here it lay for a long time totally disregarded, till by the interposition of Alderman Price and a few gentlemen in the neighbourhood of College-green, it was rescued from oblivion by a voluntary contribution for erecting it in the center of the green, with the approbation of the dean and chapter. Here it made a most conspicuous figure (see p. 294) and was greatly ornamental; it adorned its new station, and its station reflected an ornament to it, and it was here viewed with pleasure by all

all as a most curious piece of antiquity. But even here in time the Cross lost that reverence and regard that had been hitherto paid it throughout all ages, for in the year 1763 it was at length found out that this beautiful structure by intersecting one of the walks interrupted gentlemen and ladies from walking eight or ten abreast. One Mr. Champion, a great projector, interested himself much in its removal, and solicited subscriptions of money to be laid out in removing the Cross, and widening and rendering more commodious the walks in College-green. The dean and chapter, on whose ground it was erected, gave leave for its removal. But many people who subscribed for widening and improving the walks, subscribed also for rebuilding the Cross in any unexceptionable place, but no such could be found in Bristol — all the money subscribed for the Cross was spent solely in laying out the walks, the Cross itself rudely torn down and much injured by the workmen employed, was thrown by in a corner of the cathedral, where it lay for a long while neglected, till Dean Barton gave it to Mr. Hoar of Stourton, who perceiving its value and out of love for antiquities has erected it in a most superb manner at his elegant seat of Stourhead at the expence of 300l.

SECT. II. — *Of the CHURCH of St. AUDEN, OWEN, or EWEN, consolidated in 1788 with CHRIST CHURCH.*

THIS church, situated in the center of the city at the meeting of four streets, is well described 1480 by William of Worcester: "The parish church of St. Auden with the chapel of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist is situated in a direct line betwixt the church of St. Werburgh on the west and the street called Broad-street on the east, and the great east window of the altar of the said church is situated in Broad-street." p. 227. And "The length of the church of St. Ewen, i. e. of St. Auden, contains 22 yards, and the breadth of the said church, whose eastern part or altar is directly opposite the church of the Holy Trinity, contains 15 yards measured by me or 30 steps; and it has one nave on the north part of the aisle, and one aisle which is the chapel of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist." p. 215, 253. In 1631 a tower was erected at the expence of 196l. in the churchyard.

This church though the smallest is of greater antiquity than most. It appears by deeds that "Robert Earl of Glocester gave the church of St. Auden to Thurstan the priest of Bristol, and William the Earl, his son, confirmed it

in the time of Simon Bishop of Worcester, and requested the bishop to maintain him therein, as he had admitted him in the time of his father Robert." —

This was about the year 1130 or 1140, as Simon died in 1150. St. Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury by deed confirmed to Thurstan this church with all its appurtenances, which Robert Earl of Gloucester had given to him in alms, to hold the same freely as Simon Bishop of Worcester had confirmed it to him. This Thurstan afterwards gave it to God and the church of St. James, Bristol, and the abby of Tewksbury, to which it paid yearly a small pension. This was confirmed by William Earl of Gloucester.

The great east window of the altar of this church, situated in Broad-street, as well described by William of Worcester, p. 227. was the place where King Edward 4th. stood to see Sir Baudwyn Fullford pass by to his execution, which is confirmed by an entry in the churchwardens book of account, 1 Edward 4th. "Item, for washyng the church payven against K. Edward 4th. is comynge to Brystow, iiii ob." Which was in September, 1461.

The south aisle that joined the nave as part of this church was a chapel dedicated to St. John the Baptist, belonging to a fraternity, called, the Master, Wardens, or Keepers, and Society of Taylors, consisting of brethren and sisters, who always kept it in repair till its dissolution. It had two altars, one to St. Catherine and the other to St. Margaret. This gild was erected and the chapel founded by John Thorp and John Sherp, burgeses, who obtained a charter of King Richard 2d. October 16, 1398, and the 22d year of his reign, to found a chapel for a chaplain to celebrate divine service for the good estate of the king and queen whilst alive and for their souls when departed, and for the fraternity here perpetually founded and incorporated, and he gave them power to choose a custos or warden always to be chosen by the co-brethren, and to hold lands, tenements, &c. for the support of the said chaplain and his successors to the value of 100s. per annum for ever, the statute of Mortmain notwithstanding. This was confirmed by Henry 4th. in the 1st year of his reign, and John Thorp and John Sherp put Robert of Gloucester in possession of the said chapel, who was to celebrate divine service at the altar of St. John in the church of St. Ewin, and to be displaced by the masters and proctors of the fraternity in case of wilful neglect upon the third admonition. In process of time by divers benefactions this fraternity, called afterwards the Masters, Wardens or Keepers and Company of Merchant Taylors, became possessed of a very considerable estate to the amount of 97l. 16s. 8d. in rents and ground rents, besides renewals of lives upon their tenements yearly happening. They had additional privileges also granted them by Queen Elizabeth in 1571, which

which cost them 15*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* and obtained others of the mayor and common council at the expence of 10*l.* which the queen confirmed. They had then a book of ordinances containing 35 articles, acts, and rules, which were all confirmed by letters patent of King James, dated August 28, 1615, the same were again ratified by King Charles 1*st.* May 15, 1640. This company in the year 1701 out of their great revenues founded an almshouse in Merchant-street with a chapel in the parish of St. James. The old chapel in St. Ewen's church in 1551, 4th of Edward 6th. was granted by the parson and parishioners with all their right and title to the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, paying 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum, giving the parson and parishioners power to distrain for the said rent upon any of the city lands, with proviso that if the church were at any time dissolved then the rent should cease. Upon this the corporation taking down this chapel being one aile of the church built on the same ground a Council House in the year 1552, with a shed covered with lead, supported with five stone pillars before it for the council to walk under in-the dry, which must have greatly darkened the room below. The council chamber above had four high windows of stone tracery work with small glass squares with the king's, the city's, and merchants' arms on top; between the windows was a niche, wherein a statue of Charles 2*d.* was afterwards placed, which being shewn to one of the court ladies coming to Bristol as an honour to that august monarch, she smartly replied, he looked more like a great clumsy porter placed there to keep the entrance. This old Council House was taken down and another in a more modern style rebuilt in the year 1704, and the statue was then placed against the Guildhall.

The RECTORS of St. Ewen or Owen.

PATRONS.

Abbot and convent of Tewksbury.	1397 Thomas Lye.
1130 Thurstan —, priest.	1403 John Laury.
1292 Adam de Moreton.	1407 Thomas Ockley.
1317 John Scrovare.	1421 Richard Collyns.
1330 Jacobus —.	1448 Richard Hankyn.
1348 Symon Bullocke.	1450 Thomas Gyles.
1370 William Botiller.	1452 Thomas Smyth.
1379 Thomas Botte.	1454 Thomas Jacob.
1381 Stephen Swell.	1459 Sir Thomas Seward.
1390 John Darell.	1501 Thomas Pennant.
1393 John Podwelle.	1515 Edward Waterhouse.

Mr.

PATRONS.		1643 Timothy Whatley.
Mr. Brayne.		1664 James Pownall.
1549 John Rawlyns.		1670 Henry Jones.
1580 Thomas Long.		1673 Tobias Higgins.
1591 William Welles.		1701 James Pidding.
Sir Charles Gerard.		1730 Thomas Taylor.
1631 Thomas Gawen.		1770 Rumney Penrose.
Corporation.		
1639 Matthew Hazard.		

There are few monuments in this church. There was on the ascent to the pulpit the following inscribed on a stone : — “ Hic jacet Johannes Coleman, nuper rector istius ecclesiæ, qui obiit 8 die Maii, A. D. 1502.”

Also on a stone : — “ Thomas Hobson and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Edmund Wynch, Esq; of London. She died March 18, 1642. He June 7, 1660, aged 77.

Thus doth the glory of this world pass
We die and wither like the flower and grass ;
But since on earth we are of life bereaven,
We flew from earth to Christ our life in heaven.”

It appears by the receipt of Robert Recorde, comptroller of the king's mint, that they received in gilt plate 107 ounces, and in parcel gilt 142 ounces ; 249 ounces at one time, which belonged to this church. Besides this, which consisted of chalices, pyxes, crosses, censers, ships for carrying frankincense, spoons, boxes, there was a long list of ornaments, silk and velvet embroidered, vestments, curtains, copes, &c. belonging to this church and to the chapel of St. John.

This church is a rectory, the corporation being patrons ; but the parish consisting of not more than 27 houses and warehouses, the benefit to the rector would be very small if the vestry did not allow him a stipend out of the church stock of 19l. per annum, besides the contributions from the parishioners, and a gift sermon by Mr. Hobson 6s. 8d. *

In

* The cost for a breakfast on Corpus Christi day, 1460, is thus entered in this church book :

Item, for a calve's head and hinge	-	-	-	3d.
Item, for two rounds of beef	-	-	-	6
Item, for bread and ale	-	-	-	8
Item, for Master Parson for his dinner	-	-	-	4
Item, for the clerk	-	-	-	2
Item, for bearing the cross	-	-	-	2

In 1787 this church was consolidated with that of Christ Church, and an act of parliament obtained for taking this down and for rebuilding Christ Church, which last was compleated in 1788.

C H A P. XVI.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. WERBURGA.

IT is a rectory, dedicated to St. Werburga, supposed to be the daughter of Wulferus King of Mercia, who had a nunnery erected and dedicated to her honour at Chester about the year 670. Others say, she was made abbess by her uncle Ethelred over an ancient nunnery at Trickingham in Staffordshire, where she died in 683. It is situated in Corn-street, called in deeds of the year 1200 Old Corn-street, near the center of the city ; its east end joins the upper end of Small-street. It has three ailes, the length of each from east to west is 72 feet, its breadth is in the clear 58 feet, and the height of the middle aile is 26 feet, having an arched plaistered cieling, the outside covering being of Cornish tile, as are also the north and south ailes, the height of each being 22 feet, and on each side the middle ailes are five neat fluted free-stone pillars, on which are turned six arches of the same stone, which support the whole roof of the church. William of Worcester, p. 200. says, " It contains in breadth 19 yards or 34 steps, and the square tower 5 yards on each of the four sides." It had no tower to it for near 200 years after its foundation, when by indenture dated the 11th of April, 1385, between the feoffees and parishioners of the one part and John Warwyke then rector on the other, it was agreed that in consideration of their granting and confirming to the rector and his successors for ever a house belonging to the parish situated in the churchyard, the said rector granted to them and their successors for ever his messuage situated in Corn-street, on which ground the tower is now built, being finished with freestone in an elegant manner, having 160 steps in ascending to the top at 6 inches each, which make the height 26 yards and 2 feet ; it is adorned with four pinnacles one at each corner about 10 feet high with a copper vane on each.

In

In the center of the floor at top is built a curious hollow work pinnacle about 20 feet high with a gilt ball and weather cock, and in the tower is a peal of six bells. Walter Derby, mayor, by will dated 1385, gave 40l. towards building this church, and Mr. Humphrey Brown, by deed dated the 10th of January, 1624, settled 7l. per annum for ever, issuing out of his farm at Elberton, in the county of Gloucester, for reading prayers every Monday morning in the year, at six o'clock, 5l. per annum to the rector, 20s. to the clerk, and 20s. to provide candles during the winter season. Thomas Aldworth, 1598, gave 4l. to repair this church. Mr. Burroughs, in 1622, gave 50l. for the same use. As to the other charitable benefactions I refer to the list of them in the church tables. The 5th of January, the 11th year of Edward 2d. 1318, the king confirms amongst other things the church of St. Werburge and that of St. Mary le Port in Bristol given to the canons of the priory of Keynsham, in the county of Somerset, by William Earl of Gloucester, for their better sustentation. The churchwardens for the time being then paid an annual acknowledgment of 6s. 8d. to that priory, which so continued to the final dissolution of that house, the site of which with part of its lands was sold to the Bridges family with the presentation to the church of St. Maryport in Bristol, to which the Duke of Chandos still presents; but this of St. Werburge was retained in the gift of the crown, whose receiver still continues to receive the annual sum of 6s. 8d. This church being much decayed, and obstructing the entrance into Small-street, was partly taken down and rebuilt, and opened again for divine service the 8th of February, 1761; the tower was only repaired at top.

Many benefactions were made to this church by sundry persons for obits, chauntries, and to find lamps at the several chapels and altars within it. In 1245 Simon Clerk, mayor, granted 12d. annually for a lamp to burn in the choir of the chapel founded and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as did Peter Martur 3s. for divine service at the same chapel in the year 1261, and Nicolas le Barber, in 1304, gave 2s. annually for the same purpose, and also many others.

This parish is of small extent, consisting of about 46 houses, and the rectory is valued in the King's Books at 33l. 6s. 8d. clear yearly value, Yearly Tenths, now discharged, 1l. But in the Lincoln manuscript it appears that in the year 1241, the 19th of Edward 1st. this church was taxed at six marks and a half per annum, and by a manuscript (Annal. Wygorn) it is said, "1236 confirmavimus canonicis de Keynsham C. solidos de ecclesia Sanctæ Werburgæ, Bristol." The

The Lord High Chancellor presents to this living. The rector pays to the crown 3s. 4d. per annum.

In the vestry-room over the door on the inside is the following inscription:
 "Fabricatum fuit hoc sacrum in mense Julii Annoque Domini MDCXCIV, quo etiam tempore condecorata fuit hæc integra ecclesia sumptibus parochianorum Carolo Brent, A. M. rectore, Georgio Irish, Abrahamo Eltono, guardianis."

In the same room is hung up in a frame a list of the GIFT SERMONS to be preached in this church. —

January 6, Dr. Thomas White's.	June 24, Mr. Humphrey Brown's.
May 22, Mr. Humphrey Brown's.	June 29, Dr. Thomas White's.
March 25, Dr. Thomas White's.	July 1, Mr. Humphrey Brown's.
May 6, Mr. Humphrey Brown's.	Dec. 27, Dr. Tho. White's, 1729.

By the rent roll of the lands belonging to this church the annual amount of the ground rents thereof in 1750 was 47l. 17s. 4d. which has since been probably improved.

A List of the RECTORS.

PATRON.	1474 Thomas Pyttes, resigned with a pension of six marks.
Abby of Keynsham.	1491 Richard Woode.
1245 Roger de Sowe.	1500 John Pecke.
1281 Thomas de Mersfeld.	The King, Patron.
1290 William le Roper, removed because married.	1545 Christopher Pacey.
1292 Adam de Solweye.	Sir William Carr.
1317 Thomas de la Greeve.	1577 Maurice Durant.
1333 John de la Leech.	1605 Edward Toore.
1339 Thomas de Berewycke.	1608 Richard Collyns.
1360 Thomas de la Grone.	1610 John Farmer.
1364 Hugo de Penbrugge.	1634 John Till Adam.
1367 John Warwycke.	— Stephens, afterwards master of the Grammar-school.
1401 John Molfham.	1686 Thomas Palmer.
1404 William Congersbury.	1694 Charles Brent.
1410 William Hawevylle.	1729 Rumney Penrose.
1416 William Felton.	1743 John Culliford.
1430 Robert Beaumont.	175 Richard Symes.
1436 Thomas Tonge.	
1440 William Sutton.	
1472 Thomas Mershe.	

M O N U M E N T S.

In the north aisle is the following inscription: — "Hic jacet Johannes Punchardon, qui obiit 10 Apr. A. D. 1379, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen." Arms, f. fable, five balls arg.

Near this a monument "To Alderman John Barker," a carved figure leaning on his right arm in the robes of a magistrate. He was mayor in 1607, and died in his mayoralty. Arms, f. az. five eschalops or, quartered with f. gules, a chevron arg. three goats heads of the second. He died 1636.

"Terrena sperno, suprema spero," with ten English verses.

Near this on a stone on the floor an inscription to

"Abeli Rogers, generoso, qui obiit 29 Jan. 1632, æt. 20.

Filius ad parentes:

Vivo, fruor tandem veris (ne flete parentes)

Deliciis, cælo, posteritate, Deo."

By the vestry a neat monument to

"Robert Earle, Esq; some time mayor of this city, who died 25 January, 1736, aged 68; — a man of strict honour and justice, and remarkably punctual in all his dealings. He discharged the offices of mayor and alderman to the general satisfaction of the citizens." Arms, G. three eschalops or.

Near this a table monument to Nathaniel Boucher, merchant, who died the 22d of March, A. D. 1627, aged 40, leaving behind him nine children.

Under a flat stone by the vestry door are buried Giles Earle, gentleman: he died the 6th of January, 1676, aged 85. Also Sir Thomas Earle, Knight, mayor and alderman, who died the 24th of June, 1696, aged 67. Also Dame Elizabeth Elianor Earle, widow of Sir Thomas, who died the 7th of June, 1709, aged 74. Also Joseph Earle, Esq; M. P. for Bristol, who died the 13th of March, 1729.

In the corner of this aisle was a small square stone table to the memory of Mr. George Boucher, merchant, who was hanged in Wine-street, May 30, 1643, by the Rebels, with the following verses on it: —

Sanguis Martyrum semen ecclesiæ.

Whoever chanceth this way, pass not by
These fainted ashes with a careless eye;
They are undaunted dust and did outbrave
Whilst they retain'd a soul Death and the Grave;
And still bear witness in our Martyr's right,
That they dare murder, who yet ne'er durst fight.

Ne'er

Ne'er was so bold a lion by such hares
 Worried to death, so merciless their snares;
 Yet he so stout that whether none can tell
 His courage or their cruelty did excel.
 Mirror of Patience! Loyalty! thy fall
 Hath proved yet a successful funeral:
 Since 'twas guilt of thy death, no battery
 That storm'd these forts, that gain'd us victory:
 For though our foes were fenced with walls and roof,
 Yet there's no wall, no fence is conscience proof:
 Thus is thy murdering wreath to us become
 A laureate, to thee a crown of martyrdom.

G. B.

At the east end is a superb monument gilded and painted with several coats of arms on brass to Nicholas Thorne and his family, with the following Latin lines.

Hâc Nicolaus humo Thornus jacet, optime lector,
 Olim mercator nobilis atque probus;
 Cujus dicta fides constantia facta regebat,
 Et virtute vacans actio nulla fuit,
 Bristolæ natus fato quoque functus ibidem,
 Qui magis æternum vivere dignus erat.
 Hanc etenim prætor rexitque scolæque superbâ
 Ornavit, fratis sumptibus atque suis,
 Munificumque patrem sensit respublica tota
 Bristolæ, cujus jam bonitate viget:
 Huncque senes, juvenes, pueri, innuptæque puellæ
 Totaque plebs deflet tam cecidisse citò,
 Coniuge quem geminâ et bisquinâ prole beatum
 Sedibus his miseris sustulit omnipotens:
 Cujus in ætherias animus penetravit in auras,
 Reliquias tantum corporis arca tenet;
 Uxoremque eadem fidam tenet arca priorem
 Atque hunc qui primus natus utrique fuit.
 Qui obiit 19 Aug. A. D. 1546, ætatis suæ 50.

At the east end of the north aisle was a large handsome Gothic tomb with brass plates, with the engraved figure of a man at his devotions and seven sons be-

hind him ; opposite him a woman with two daughters behind her ; in the center is suspended a shield with the family arms, f. gules on a chevron between three cinquefoils arg. as many leopards faces sable. Underneath on a brass plate the following verses.

Johanni Smithe et Johannæ uxori ejus
Hugo et Mattheus eorundum filii posuerunt.

Par jacet hoc tumulto sociale uxore maritus

Jungitur ; ut lectus, sic tenet urna duos :

Smithus Johannes conjux, vir dignus amari,

Sumpsit Johannam, par in amore decus :

Pignore multiplici par felix lustra peregit

Plurima : nunc regnat junctus uterque Deo. 1556.

The crest of the Smith's arms. On the helm on a wreath arg. and G. a griffin's head erased G. with two gemmels or. The 10th Eliz. a new crest was granted by Garter, a roebuck or. horned and clawed arg.

For rebuilding the church and shortening it to widen the road into Small-street, this monument was taken entirely down, and the ground it stood on thrown into the street.

This John Smith, Esq; was a commissioner under Henry 8th. 1544, to take the surrender of the hospital of St. John without Redcliff-gate. Part of these lands, which he purchased, belong to the present Sir John Hugh Smyth, Bart. of Ashton Court, near Bristol, his descendant at this day.

Against a pillar in the north aisle is a neat monument to John Day, Esq; with a long Latin inscription. He died the 20th of June, 1718, ætatis 44.

In the chancel : " Johannes Perke, clericus quondam rector istius ecclesiæ, obiit 1518."

Near this an inscription to

" Humphrey Brown, merchant, who died March 22, 1630, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of George White, of this city, merchant.

Here lies a Brown a White, the colours one

Pale drawn by Death, here shaded by a stone :

One house did hold them both whilst life did last,

One grave do hold them both now life is past.

Sir John Seymour, of Bitton, second husband of the above Elizabeth
hoc suum amoris subjunxit testimonium.

Novimus excelso monumento ex marmore dignum

Te, licet es parvo nunc sita, velle tuum est ;

Sic

Sic duplex specimen gemini produxit amoris,
 Hic posito, et vivo complacuisse viro:
 Virtutem et cœlis animam fruitura dicavit
 Et cineri cineres, ossibus ossa dedit."

At the east end of the south aisle is a large altar monument to William Carr and his wife. He was father of John Carr, founder of Queen Elizabeth's hospital. There were some English verses on the back of the monument in the year 1759 concealed by the pew, which began thus:

Lo here the end of mortal man
 Compact in slender room;
 The clue of Carr's unspotted life
 Wound up by fatal doom, &c.

In rebuilding the church this monument was also destroyed.

Under the south window is a handsome monument with a half arch for the family of Sir Robert Cann, of Compton Greenfield, Bart. Arms, az. fretty arg. on a fess gules, three leopards faces or. crest in a mural crown, gules, a plume of six feathers arg. and az.

The following are the BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Werburgh's Parish.

1624,	Humphrey Brown gave an estate at Elberton of 7l. per annum, for reading prayers at six o'clock, mornings, at St. Werburgh's, and 2l. for four sermons there.	l.	s.	d.
1622,	Dr. Thomas White gave lands of 10l. per annum for four sermons in this church.			
1594,	Robert Kitchen gave 10s. per annum to a housekeeper of this parish for ever.			
1639,	George Harrington gave 10s. per annum to a housekeeper of this parish for ever.			
1661,	Joseph Jackson gave 200l. the interest thereof for promoting divine worship in this church	200	0	0
	Samuel Heal gave 230l. the interest for apprenticing poor children in seven parishes, and 10l. to be laid out in bread	230	0	0
1699,	Ann Longman gave 195l. to the poor of the city, of which this parish has part.			
1711,	George Lysons gave 50l. the interest to be laid out in bread for the poor on Saints days	50	0	0
1712,	Richard Long gave 1l. 5s. per annum to poor householders	25	0	0
				1714,

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1714, James Crofts gave 2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per annum to poor householders	50	0	0
1727, Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. gave 2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per annum to five poor housekeepers not receiving alms, paid Sept. 11	50	0	0
1736, Robert Earle gave 5 <i>l.</i> per annum in bread weekly to the poor	100	0	0
Mrs. Boucher and Mrs. Langton gave lands in Bedminster to poor widows of the city at 10 <i>s.</i> each.			
Edward Colston gave 160 <i>l.</i> to erect a new altar-piece.			

C H A P. XVII.

*Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. JOHN the BAPTIST,
with that of St. LAURENCE consolidated.*

THIS church consists but of one aisle; the length of the church 80 feet, the height is about 15 feet; there is a neat but small chancel, with a handsome altar, behind which is a convenient vestry-room; the breadth of the church is 24 feet. The tower, topped with a slender steeple, is built upon a lofty arch over the street, in which are a peal of six bells. The founder of the church was Mr. Walter Frampton, who had been three times mayor. This rectory is worth about 100*l.* per annum by voluntary contributions and of the vestry 15*l.* per annum. Mr. William Burroughs, in 1622, gave a house in Christmas-street for the residence of the minister.

The yearly value in the King's Books for St. John and St. Laurence rectories is 5*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* The Yearly Tenths, now discharged, was 14*s.* 5½*d.*

William of Worcester says, "*Dedicatio ecclesiæ St. Johannis, &c.* The church of St. John was dedicated the 17th of July. The length of the vaulted roof of St. John's consists of six arches with six windows on one side towards the south, and two windows towards the north *frette vaulted*. It is 16 steps high, each step 8 inches. It is 29½ yards long besides the chancel, and 7 yards broad. The gate of St. John Baptist, upon which is built a square tower and a spire above it of freestone with two battlements upon the tower, contains in length 17 steps, and was built anew with the church of St. John by Walter Frampton, a noble merchant of the town of Bristol." p. 167, 197, 208, 216.

On

On each side of the arched gateway south are the two figures of Bellinus and Brennus, two British kings of uncommon prowess and success in war, if we believe the fabulous Geoffrey of Monmouth, with their coat armour, an escutcheon with a portcullis over one, and a flower de lis or. over the other; but it is clear they were put up since the church was erected, to give some sanction to the story of Geoffrey, quoted by William of Worcester and others, who have made them the founders of Bristol, of as little credit as the story of Brute and his Trojans peopling England.

Mr. Robert Strange, who had been three times mayor of this town, the first time in the year 1475, the second in 1483, the third in 1490, founded an hospital ora almshouse in this parish, by the foot of the steps going into St. James's out of Tower-lane, and endowed the same with lands by the Castle mill up to Newgate, also the Spur-inn in Wine-street did belong to the same; but by the wicked proceedings of the people then in trust for this charity they had embezzled the revenues of it. A commission to enquire into it was held by Dr. Robert Wright, Bishop of Bristol, and many others, who found that several leaves had been cut out of the parish books which related to this charity, also the inscription on his tomb in St. John's churchyard was entirely defaced, and the commission proved of no effect; it was held in the year 1640. The great rebellion soon after spread over the kingdom, which put a stop to any further proceedings. The almshouse became ruinous, and was taken down and rebuilt in the year 1721, where now thirteen poor women do inhabit: they are put in by the vestry of this parish, but there are no lands at present with which it is endowed. The pay to each person is 1s. 6d. per week from St Peter's Hospital, which is an incorporated body of guardians for the poor of the whole city, established by act of parliament passed in the 7th and 8th year of his Majesty King William the 3d. 1696.

The Rev. Mr. Powell 1664 gave money to the chamber to pay 2l. per ann. to St. John's almshouse. Alice Cole 1604 gave 4l. per annum. Thomas Sylk 1l. 1s. per annum, 1565.

The feoffees and vestry of this church are possessed of near fifty tenements, leased out on lives, the reserved or ground rents of which amounted in the year 1754 to the sum of 86l. 8s. annually besides renewals.

RECTORS of the Church of St. John.

PATRONS.	
Abbot and convent of Tewksbury.	1482 William Thomas, resigned, and had a pension yearly of five marks.
1285 William Beind.	1505 Walter Walshe.
1286 John de Stowey.	1507 John Tofte, by resignation of Walshe.
1304 Thomas de Ciston, habuit custodiam eccles. Sti. Joannis.	1531 Tho. Tasker, by death of Tofte. Sir Charles Somerset, Patron.
1309 Dom. Pagan de Bristol.	1567 Roger Price.
1337 William de Bermingham.	Mayor and aldermen, Patrons.
1361 John Lovestoke de Aston.	1580 Roger Rife, 22 Eliz
John Bonecocke.	1604 Wm. Davells, Si. verbi minister.
1369 Henry Cammile.	1634 Nicholas Pownall.
1379 Richard Wodecote.	1660 Thomas Coleman.
William Wade.	1730 James Taylor.
1385 Richard Maykyn.	1746 Carew Reynell, and chancellor of Bristol,
1388 Richard Wormbrugg.	Thomas Bound.
1392 Richard Croke.	John Davie, M. A.
1406 John Shaw.	1779 Rev. J. Johnes, M. A.
1420 John Mybbys.	
1427 Richard Clerk.	
1433 Thomas Wheton.	
1460 Nicholas Ruffel.	
1465 Thomas Clent.	

There are few monuments in this church. The first is the founder's on a raised tomb with his figure at length in his alderman's robes enclosed with a railing, at the top of which is the following inscription:—"Hic jacet corpus Gualteri Frampton, mercatoris, et hujus ecclesiæ fundatoris terque villæ Bristolliaë mayoris 1357."

On the ground near this tomb are the effigies of a man and woman in brass let into the stone, with six sons and six daughters, and the following inscription:—"Hic jacet Thomas Rowley, quondam mercator et vicecomes hujus villæ Bristolliaë qui quidem Thomas obiit 23 Jan. A. D. 1478, et Margaret uxor quæ obiit A. D. 1470. Quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen." Out of the mouth of the man comes a scroll and thereon, "Sancta Maria ora pro nobis." Out of the woman's, "Sancta Trinitas unus Deus miserere nobis." In the cript or vault under the church is a large tomb of alabaster, and on its side

side the figures of the six sons and six daughters with their father and mother without epitaph, but supposed to be for the above Thomas Rowley.

Against the south wall in the chancel is a marble monument to the memory of Andrew Innis, gentleman, who died the 29th of December, 1733, aged 82, and his wife Joan, who died the 3d of May, 1672, and Elizabeth his second wife, who died 1711, by whom he had fourteen children.

Against the north wall is a handsome monument to William Donning, Esq; alderman, who died the 15th of November, 1695. John his son died the 15th of April, 1701. James, mayor and alderman, died the 8th of March, 1745.

There were two chauntries here founded by Walter Frampton in St. John's, one called Cantaria St. Mariæ, of which Richard son of John Coke was chauntry priest, another of which in 1531 John Poppely was priest. The said Frampton instituted also a chauntry in the church of Wraxhal, in the county of Somerset, a delightful village seven miles from Bristol, and ordered the naming of a chaplain to be always by the mayor of Bristol for the time being. There was another chauntry at St. John's also by Thomas Rowley, and a chapel of the Holy Cross.

It may be remarked here, that Rowley was the name of a family that flourished in Bristol for many years and at different periods. Whether the so much celebrated Rowley, of whom we have such disputed accounts, was chauntry priest of this chauntry, founded here by his relation, must be left to the opinion and judgment of the reader. It is recorded in Chatterton's handwriting that Rowley was chauntry priest of St. John's. That it was a Bristol family appears from many deeds, in which they are often mentioned. One Thomas Rowley was chauntry priest at Redcliff.

And in a Bede-roll of All Saints church Walter Rowley and William Rowley are to be prayed for by name among the benefactors to that church. In the year 1479 William Rowley of this city was buried at St. Mary's church of Dam, in Flanders.

At the west side of the tower was an old church formerly, dedicated to St. Lawrence. William of Worcester describes it as having been 28 yards long, and 9 yards wide. When it was built is uncertain, but it is of a very old foundation, and going to decay and having but a small parish belonging to it, it was united and incorporated with St. John's in the 22d of Elizabeth, 1580, having been sold in the time of Henry 8th. to H. Brayne, whose successor Sir

Charles Somersfet sold the site of it for buildings upon lives. John Hawkys, twice mayor, by will, 4 May, 16 Henry 8th. gave a third part of his estate to the rector and proctors of the church of St. Lawrence, the whole estate valued at that time at 900l. Some remains of arched windows do now alone point out its site next to St. John's-gate.

There was also not far distant from this another church, dedicated to St. Giles, over the gate at the bottom of Small-street. This has also undergone the same fate, and was united to St. Leonard's about the time of Edward 3d. and is noticed by William of Worcester, p. 248.

The following were the RECTORS of St. Lawrence.

PATRONS.

Robert le Ware.	1303	Robert, dictus Ware, de Bristol subd. 13 kal. Feb.
John le Ware.	1321	John de Wedmore cap. kal. Maii, taxat ad v marc as.
	1348	John de Quenyngton, pbr. 26 March.
		John Forster.
Tho. Broke Miles.	1406	William Dene, 12 May.
	1414	Nicholas Schaldere, 5 May.
		John Wylle.
		Roger Saunders.
J. Dom. de Lyfle.	1446	William John.
	1457	Thomas Wandre, 7 May.
	1460	Robert Chaloner.
	1467	William Adice.
Thomas Talbot.		John Newton.
Vice C. Lyfle.	1499	Thomas Tappescote, 9 December.
Arthur Planta-	1524	Oliver Browne, 6 October.
genet and Eliz.		
Uxor ejus.	1526	John Funtayne.
Corporation.	1548	— — —.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. John Baptist Parish.

Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Mary Langton,	l.	s.	d.
widows, gave lands for payment of 10s. apiece to 52			
poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this			
parish hath a proportion.			
1683, Mrs. Elizabeth Horn gave 10l. the profit thereof to the			
poor of this parish for ever	-	-	-
			10 0 0
			1685,

1685,	Mr. Richard Stubbs, merchant, gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish for ever	l.	s.	d.
		50	0	0
1701,	Mr. John Dunning, of this parish, merchant, gave to the churchwardens 25l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread on the 1st day of January yearly for ever	25	0	0
1709,	Capt. John Price, late of this city, gave to the churchwardens of this parish 10l. the interest thereof to be given to the poor in bread on St. John's-day yearly for ever	10	0	0
	Mrs. Hannah Cole gave 30l. the interest thereof to be paid to six poor widows of this parish on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever	30	0	0
	Mr. Robert Kitchen, alderman of this city, gave 20s. per annum to the poor for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. George Harrington, alderman of this city, gave 20s. per annum to the poor for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. Thomas White gave to the maintenance of this parish conduit-pipe 20s. per annum, to be paid by the chamberlain of this city for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. William Griffin gave 10s. for a sermon to be preached upon St. John's-day, and 3s. 4d. in bread to be distributed the same day to the poor	13	0	0
	Mrs. Elizabeth Colston, widow, gave 10s. per annum for a sermon to be preached on New Year's day for ever	10	0	0
1669,	Mr. Edward Langley, of this parish, merchant, gave two tenements for 58 years, the profit thereof to be distributed in bread weekly to poor housekeepers.			
1678,	Mr. Edward Hurn, some time sheriff of this city, gave 30l. the profit thereof in bread to the poor of this parish forever	30	0	0
1687,	Thomas Edwards, late of this parish, Esq; gave 20s. per annum for ever, issuing out of lands in the parish of St. Philip and Jacob, in the county of Gloucester, which by his will he directed should be applied for preaching two sermons yearly for ever in this church, one on St. Thomas's-day and the other on Good Friday	20	0	0
1733,	Mrs. Jane Edwards, widow of the above-named Thomas Edwards, by her will gave 20 guineas to this parish, the profit arising therefrom to be laid out in bread annually on St. Thomas's-day, and distributed by the churchwardens to the poor of this parish	21	0	0

Mr. Robert Strange, some time mayor of this city, was founder of this parish almshouse.

Mr. William Chester, some time mayor of this city, gave four tenements, the profit thereof to the poor, and 7l. 10s. per annum quit rents.

Mrs. Margaret Tindal gave a dwelling-house and 20s. per annum in money.

Mrs. Cole, the wife of Alderman Cole, gave to the poor of the almshouse 6s. 8d. per month - - - 6 10 0

Mr. Thomas Coleman, some time rector of this church, gave to the poor of the almshouse 4s. per month 52 0 0

Mr. Andrew Yates gave 16s. per annum to the poor of the almshouse.

Mr. William Burrowes gave a dwelling-house to the rector of this parish.

1661, Mr. Francis Gleed gave 40s. per annum to four house-keepers quarterly, 10s. each to such as receive no alms 40 0 0

1669, The parishioners have purchased 5l. 4s. per annum for 2s. a week in bread to the poor of this parish for ever.

1719, Mr. Samuel Hartnell, of St. Augustine's parish, gave the inheritance of lands in the parish of Henbury, in Gloucestershire, now let at 33l. per annum, to put three poor boys in Queen Elizabeth's Hospital for ever, one of which is to be of this parish.

Just under the tower on the south next Broad-street is St. John's cistern, to which is brought by lead pipes from Park-street the spring-head a constant supply of water. To repair the pipe when out of order Thomas White left 20s. per annum. A large feather from this used to supply the Carmelite friery, afterwards called Sir John Young's Great House, (now Colston's Hospital) and in 1654 this feather, which had been made so large as to deprive the citizens of the water, was ordered by the mayor and commonalty to be cut off and the pipe laid level in the street, the conduits and pipes of the city being under their care, and the churchwardens of St. John were ordered to see it duly executed, and to enter into any ground or place to the fountain head to view and amend the defects. As early as October 1, 50 Edward 3d. 1376, Walter Derby being mayor, an agreement was made with Hugh White, plumber, at his own cost during life to bring the water to the Key pipe, All Saints pipe

pipe and St. John's pipe, at the yearly sum of 10l. Mention is made of a cistern near the Carmelites called, "the cistern of the pipe of St. John's, in Broad-street."

In this parish of St. John is the Guildhall of the city, a very ancient structure, thus described by William of Worcester, in 1480, p. 239, "The breadth of the Gylhalle of Bristol in Broad-street contains 23 yards with the chapel of St. George, founded by Richard Spicer, a famous merchant and burges of the town, about the time of King Edward 3d. or Richard 2d. There is a very worthy fraternity of merchants and mariners belonging to the said chapel. This chapel contains in length 20 steps beside the space of the chancel, its breadth 12 steps."

The Guildhall is a lofty, long, spacious, and airy room, arched with wood work, and well adapted for the business of holding the quarter sessions and yearly assizes. The jury retire into St. George's chapel to agree about the verdict; and there is a very convenient grand jury room and galleries fitted up for the witnesses and spectators upon trials, seats for the judge, mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, and a court for the counsellors and a bar for the prisoners.

The Taylors'-hall is also in this parish, built on void ground given to the fraternity of Taylors of St. Ewen's, wherein they meet on festival days in their gowns to wait on the mayor, and where they transact the business of their society.

Bridewell, of old called Monkenbridge or Munkbridge, the common prison of the city, was once an old tower and fortification, new built in 1577, and rebuilt in 1721 by the chamber at the expence of 1053l. 3s. To this there were many benefactors. Thomas Chester, 1582, gave 2l. per annum, and Thomas Kelky 20l. And 1507 Peter Matthew 100l. to keep the poor in Bridewell at work. Sir John Young 20l. Sir William Young 50l. and 1597 Margaret Brown 10l. Thomas Aldworth 15l. to the same use and to buy them bedding. In the year 1694 Froom-gate in this parish was removed.

C H A P. XVIII.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. NICHOLAS, with St. LEONARD's consolidated.

THIS church of St. Nicholas is of great antiquity, being one of those which bounded the old city, and was built on a line with the city wall, so that the account in the manuscript under the name of Rowley as it is the only, so it may probably be the truest. "Thys chyrch was founded by Erle Britrycke in M...XXX, and sythence was yeven to Seyncte Augustynes mynsterre in Brystowe, as we may see wyth the storie of the mynsterre ynne the notable worke of the abbate." Now it is very certain that Abbot Newland left in manuscript the history of his church and the Berkeley family, and mentions Robert third son of Robert Fitzharding (about 1172) having given unto that monastery the church of St. Nicholas in Bristol. The dean and chapter of the cathedral are the patrons. In the year 1503 this church was partly rebuilt, for in the will of Thomas Knapp, an eminent merchant and late mayor, 20l. is given "towards building St. Nicholas church." The building was spacious laid out in the form of two ailes, the one north terminated with a beautiful chancel, adorned with an altar-piece, being a painting on the wall in perspective, to which there was an ascent by twelve steps, with a pavement of black and white marble, which had a noble effect as you approached the altar. It was situated over the arched gateway called Nicholas-gate, where was a clock, and over it a statue in stone of Henry 2d. who in his young days was educated at Bristol, and at a school in this parish. The roof of the church was covered with lead, and supported with four arches and five slender pillars all of freestone, which on the south side leaning threatened to give way, and in 1730 being repaired the following inscription was placed near the entrance of the church there: "Hæc compta Dei domus modo collapsura quatuor novis columnis suffulta et ornata stabilimen et ornamentum recepit. Firmius stabilietur precibus, evangelio, puritate morum, clarius ornietur continuato cætu congregantium." There was a vestry-room on the south side that projected over the street. Here you entered into an arched place or vault called the Croud,

Croud, of almost the whole length and breadth of the church, which had a row of four large pillars, and on the north side five arched openings with iron bars for windows, to let in light into this dark repository of the dead. Leland takes notice of this, Itin. p. 85. "where is a church of St. Nicholas *cum cryptis*." Croud is then an abuse of the word *crypt*, from the Greek *κρυπτα*, to hide, a hiding place for the dead. William of Worcester describes it thus, p. 201. "The breadth of the whole vault or croud with the two ailes arched with the number of five pillars contains 12 yards, and five great pillars and five arches are in the said croud. Also the square belfry tower contains 5 yards, ex omni parte." And p. 284. "The length of the croud of St. Nicholas contains besides the chapel with 7 yards for the breadth of the chapel of Holy Cross 31 yards, its breadth contains 12 yards, $1\frac{1}{2}$ foot." The high spire or steeple was constructed of wood, strongly and curiously framed together and covered with lead, the pieces jointed and let one into the other, which William of Worcester calls "*magnum pinnaculum seu spera de mearrenno elevata cum plumbo cooperta*."

There were six bells in the tower, and the great clock bell was fixed in the steeple above the rest, with this inscription on it: "Georgius Campana Bristow ad voluntatem maior et communit. removetur tempore Walteri Darby, maioris, A. D. 1369."

When the passage over the old bridge and through the arch of St. Nicholas-gate up High-street was become so very inconvenient and dangerous, that it was thought necessary to take down the bridge and St. Nicholas-gate, upon which the chancel of the church stood, it was long debated whether it would not be better to rebuild the church wholly, as it was a very old structure, and removing a part might endanger the whole. Accordingly the bridge commissioners having allowed the vestry 1400l. for the damages the church must necessarily sustain, and 1000l. more towards building it anew, the plan for rebuilding the church, though it might be at an additional expence, was approved of, and in October, 1762, they began taking down the church. In two old arches in the south wall were found two skeletons of persons, who must have been buried there soon after or at the erection of the wall of the church; perhaps when rebuilt in the time of Thomas Knapp before mentioned in 1403. In constructing the new church they preserved the croud without disturbing the ashes of the dead; but found the tower and spire too defective to be kept standing, they therefore took them down also, and built the present noble stone tower and spire in the same place, which was not finished till 1768. The old six bells were new cast into a fine peal of eight bells besides the clock bell.

in the steeple. The whole building brought a great charge upon the parish estates, and cost above 6000*l*.

The present church however is a very fine building, being one broad and lofty room with a flat cieling, and an elegant stucco raised cornice round it, adorned with mahogany seats and an elegant pulpit. The old organ was erected here again in a handsome gallery.

The present new structure has a light and airy appearance, and the room being not intersected with pillars and arches is more open, and seems well calculated for the audience all to see and hear the preacher, yet in the opinion of most it has not so striking an effect as the old form of building ;

— — — — the high-embowed roof

With antique pillars massy proof,

With storied windows richly dight,

Casting a dim religious light.

MILTON.

Divine service is no where better kept up than in this church. Besides daily prayers here celebrated from time immemorial, there is a lecture-sermon preached every Tuesday afternoon, for which the preacher is paid 25*l*. per annum by the chamber of the city and a sermon morning and afternoon on Sundays. For the afternoon sermon the vicar is paid 20*l*. per annum out of the chamber, the gift of Humphrey Brown in the year 1629, who vests an estate at Filton in Gloucestershire in the mayor and commonalty, for them “ to provide and maintain for ever a learned lecture-sermon on every Lord’s day in the afternoon at St. Nicholas in Bristol, or at St. Werburgh’s, or some other church in the city, by some able, learned, and godly preacher, a Bachelor in Divinity at least, for the better instructing the people in the deep mysteries of God, and of his saving health, &c.”

There was a vicarage-house and garden formerly belonging to the vicars of this parish, but it was taken away by the vestry in 1625, and upon complaint of Mr. Towgood they allowed him 4*l*. per annum in lieu of it ; but upon his return after his sequestration they promised to allow him 14*l*. per annum towards house rent, which however it appears they never performed, alledging he had nothing to shew for it, so they revoked their promise. The house is described in deeds as situated in Back-street, in the Rackey on the north side, 22 Feb. 9 Eliz. p. 447. of Book of Wills and Enrolment of Deeds in the chamber of Bristol.

This vicarage is worth to the minister above 200*l*. per annum, by collections from the parishioners, besides the gift sermons and surplice fees.

The

The following is a List of the VICARS from the year 1240.

PATRONS.		Dean and chapter, Patrons.	
Abbot and convent of St. Augustin.	1551	John Rastal.	
1240 Walter Filomena.	1593	George Harris.	
1286 Michael Ruffelyn.	1602	William Robinson.	
1301 Adam le Jeovene.	1620	George Hanis.	
1311 Walter de Saunford.	1626	Richard Towgood.	
1313 Walter de Kemescote.		Samuel Crossman.	
1341 Thomas Egiston.	1700	John Read, vic. to 1713.	
1348 John de Bettoner.		John Gaskarth, by nomination	
1349 William de Tormerton.		of Lord Guilford, in a letter	
1352 Walter Asch.		to Dean Tompson.	
1361 Thomas Spette.		William Goldney, died 1747.	
1369 John Cromme.	1748	John Castelman.	
1378 William Brythlampton.		John Camplin, D. D. precentor	
1387 Nicolas Adams.		of the Cathedral, vicar of	
1404 Thomas Yotflete.		Olveston and of Elberton in	
1405 John Vaughan.		the county of Gloucester, and	
1430 William Parker.		lecturer of the church of St.	
1446 John Arffos.		Mary-Redcliff.	
1493 John Burton.			
1508 Thomas Coke, A. M.			
1515 Thomas Hannibal.			

There were formerly the following Chauntries belonging to the Church of St. Nicholas.

			<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A chauntry by Richard Spycer	-	-	12	7	11
Four by Everard Le French	-	-	26	3	9
Another by William Spencer	-	-	5	0	0
Two others by Thomas Knappe	-	-	13	6	8

There was a religious gild or fraternity of the Holy Ghost within the crowd of St. Nicholas, cum capellâ in honorem Santæ Crucis ibidem; they received rents with the brotherhood and casualties 18*l.* 5*s.* per annum.—The expences of the priests and clerk for celebrating the Holy Ghost mass and anthems, yearly salary was 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* which with wine, ringing the bells and cleaning the croud amounted to about 9*l.* per annum in toto, and costs “for the drynk- yng of the brotherhoode on Holy-rood day” amounted to 5*l.* 6*s.* where the wheat in 1529 is charged 2*d.* per bushel, candles 1*d.* per pound, 14 gallons of milk 1*s.* 2*d.* double ale 2*d.* per gallon, &c.

The following are the principal MONUMENTS to be met with here.

John Whitson alderman, and a great benefactor to the city, lies buried in the crowd, his figure in stone well carved and painted in his alderman's gown, on a handsome arch tomb, with square pyramidal pillars on the side, and over him a table with the following inscription:—The particulars of his charitable endowments and gifts will be shewn in the list of wills and charitable donations, and are set down on the monument.

“ In memory of that great benefactor to this city John Whitson, mayor and alderman, and four times member in parliament for the same, who died in the 72d year of his age, A. D. 1629; a worthy pattern to all who came after him: out of his several estates he bequeathed, viz. *l. s. d.*

To 52 poor childbed women	-	52	0	0	per annum.
To the Redmaids Hospital	-	120	0	0	ditto.
To Redcliff Grammar-school	-	8	10	6	ditto.
To the Merchants' Almshouse	-	26	0	0	ditto.
To poor scholars at Oxford	-	20	0	0	
To poor housekeepers	-	52	0	0	
To poor widows	-	26	0	0	
To St. Nicholas parish	-	3	0	0	
To the use of merchants and poor tradesmen interest free	-	500	0	0	

The grave where he and his three wives lie and one daughter is close before the monument; he was buried the 9th of March 1629: he was hurt by a fall from his horse, which was the supposed cause of his death; and being captain of the trained bands of the city, they attended his corps to St. Nicholas church, and the musqueteers gave him three vollies over the grave at the interment, according to the military custom.

In the north wall of the crowd is a monument with a Latin inscription: “ To Francis Knight Esq; who died 20th Aug. 1616.”

In the east wall of the chancel was a small marble monument to Edward Runcomb Esq; of the island of Montserrat, born at Goathurst in the county of Somerset; he died the 11th of Sept. 1712, aged 53.

Near this another to Elizabeth Hart, daughter of — Wynn of Denbeigh, she died Oct. 1734.

Also to Sir Richard Hart, who died Jan. 16, 1701.

In the wall was this inscription in a table at the foot of the vestry steps:

“ Dum precaturus ascendis ad domum Dei
Moriturus respice domum mortuorum :

En sub hoc sacro fornice criptam vetustam
Vetustiore sordibus collapsaque solo factam

Simplex munditiis nitet ;

Ut decet ecclesiam Anglicanam :

Nam in honorem Dei

In usum sepulturæ

In gratiam superstitum

Hoc cœmiterium ad planitiem redactum

Repurgatumque novis ornabatur cancellis

Impensis parochianorum

Curâ Ædilium

A. D. 1718."

Near the steps was the following inscription : — " Hic jacet Johannes Papinham, quondam mercator et burgenfis villæ Bristollia, qui obiit 7 Apr. 1438."

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Nicholas Parish.

1583, Mr. William Tucker, alderman, gave 40s. per annum, at	l.	s.	d.
Easter 20s. and at Christmas 20s. and 6s. 8d. for a			
sermon next Sunday after Trinity Sunday for ever	46	0	0
1595, Mr. John Brown, alderman, gave twelve shifts, six for			
men and six for women, to the value of 26s. 8d. per			
annum, one year to the Merchants' almshouse in the			
Marsh, and two years to this parish, and so to continue			
for ever	26	0	0
Mr. Matthews gave 40s. per annum, 20s. at Easter and 20s.			
at Christmas, for ever	40	0	0
Mrs. Alice Webb gave 20s. per annum upon Good Friday			
for ever	20	0	0
1597, Mr. George Snow gave 20s. per annum, 10s. at Michaelmas			
and 10s. at Christmas, and 6s. 8d. for a sermon the			
Sunday before the 24th of June for ever	26	0	0
1620, Mr. William Challoner gave 12d. per week in bread, and			
10s. for a sermon the 9th day of January	62	0	0
1628, Mr. John Whitson, alderman, gave 50l. per annum to poor			
house-holders of this parish, and 20s. for two sermons,			
viz. upon the 28th day of October and the 7th day of			
November, for ever	70	0	0

1594, Mr. Robert Kitchen, alderman, gave 40s. per annum to	l.	s.	d.
four poor house-holders quarterly for ever -	40	0	0
Mr. John Langton, alderman, gave 40s. per annum to four			
house-holders quarterly, and 12s. for a sermon to be			
preached at Horfield on the first Sunday in Lent, for			
ever - - - - -	52	0	0
1639, Mr. George Harrington, alderman, gave 40s. per annum			
to four house-holders quarterly for ever -	40	0	0
Mr. William Pitt, merchant, gave 50l. the profit thereof			
to the poor in bread for ever - - - - -	50	0	0
Mr. Roger Hurt gave 6s. 8d. for a sermon on the 24th of			
June for ever - - - - -	6	10	0
Mr. William Burrowes gave 20s. for a sermon on the 3d of			
May for ever - - - - -	20	0	0
Mr. John Henry gave 10s. for a sermon upon St. John's-			
day, the 27th of December, for ever - - -	10	0	0
Mr. George Hart gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor in			
bread for ever - - - - -	20	0	0
Mr. Abraham Birkin gave 40s. per annum to four poor			
house-holders (receiving no alms) quarterly for ever	40	0	0
Mr. Michael Deyos, merchant, gave 12d. per week in groat			
bread to three poor house-holders (not receiving other			
alms) for ever, and 13s. 4d. to the minister of this			
parish for a sermon to be preached on the 3d day of			
August in the morning, and 4s. 8d. to the clerk and			
sexton for ever - - - - -	70	0	0
Sir Thomas Langton gave 50l. the profit thereof to the			
poor in bread weekly for ever, and 20s. for a sermon to			
be preached upon Good Friday for ever -	70	0	0
Mr. John Dyer, sheriff of this city, gave 10l. the profit			
thereof to the poor in bread quarterly for ever -	10	0	0
1675, Mr. Edward Baugh, of this parish, linen-draper, gave 100l.			
the profit thereof to be given to the poor in bread			
weekly for ever - - - - -	100	0	0
Mr. Thomas Bevan, of this parish, a member of the com-			
mon council, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given			
to the poor in bread weekly for ever - - -	20	0	0
			1678,

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1678, Mr. Richard Holland gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit in bread to the poor of the almshouse on Easter-day for ever, and 10 <i>l.</i> towards building it, founded by the parish 1658	20	0	0
1680, Alexander James, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 20 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof to the poor of this parish for ever	20	0	0
1681. Mr. Timothy Parker, some time sheriff, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof in bread weekly to the poor for ever	10	0	0
Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Joan Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10 <i>s.</i> apiece to 52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a proportion. (N. B. The lands lie in the parish of Afhton, and let at 80 <i>l.</i> per annum.)			
1683, Mr. George White, some time sheriff and alderman of this city, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof to four poor householders not receiving alms quarterly	10	0	0
1686, Mr. John Hart, merchant, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof to be given in bread to the poor of this parish weekly for ever	10	0	0
1687, Mr. George Morris, merchant, and member of the common council, gave 20 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof to the poor at Christmas and Easter for ever	20	0	0
Mr. Richard Vaughan, a member of this parish, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit thereof to the poor in bread on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever	10	0	0
Sir William Cann, Knight and Bart. gave 100 <i>l.</i> to four parishes of this city, whereof this hath a fourth part, the profit thereof to be distributed to the poor the 8th day of January for ever	25	0	0
Mr. Charles Herbert, grocer, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit to be given to the poor of this parish upon the 28th day of June for ever	10	0	0
Mr. Stephen Watts, merchant, once a member of the common council, gave 10 <i>l.</i> the profit to be distributed to the poor at Christmas for ever	10	0	0
1688, The 23d of January, the Lady Ann Cann, relict of Sir Robert Cann, of this city, Knight and Bart. born in this parish, gave 10 <i>l.</i> per annum for twenty years to the poor of this parish, widows chiefly to be relieved.			

1690,	Mrs. Elizabeth Hall, widow, gave 100l. which according to her will was laid out in the purchase of a house, the rent whereof (all charges deducted) is for the preaching of twelve sermons yearly, viz. on the first Saturday in each month in the afternoon for ever	100	0	0
	Mrs. Margaret Abbey, widow, gave 50l. the profit thereof for the better relief of the poor, which was accordingly to her will distributed	50	0	0
	Mr. John Sandford, junr. gave 10l. the profit thereof to be distributed to the poor on the 14th of February yearly for ever	10	0	0
	Mr. George White, some time sheriff of this city, gave 10l. the profit thereof in six-penny bread to the poor (not receiving alms) at Christmas for ever	10	0	0
1693,	Sir William Cann, Knight and Bart. a former benefactor to this parish, gave 103l. for payment of 40s. per annum for a sermon yearly on St. George's-day against Atheism and Prophaneness, and 13s. 4d. yearly to the clerk, organist, and sexton, and 3l. 10s. per annum to be equally divided to seven poor house-holders of this parish the same day (such as frequent divine service to be preferred) for ever	103	0	0
1694,	Mr. Jedidiah Pickford, a member of the common council, gave 30l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread at Christmas and Easter for ever	30	0	0
	Mr. David Reynon, churchwarden, (born in this parish) gave 30l. for payment of 36s. to nine poor families on Candlemas-day for ever	30	0	0
1699,	Mrs. Ann Longman, widow, gave 195l. to the poor of this city, of which this parish hath a proportion.			
1706,	Mrs. Jane Mitchell gave 10l. the profit in bread to the poor at Christmas yearly	10	0	0
1708,	Mr. Charles Roynon, of this parish, gave 20l. the profit in bread on every Lord's-day	20	0	0
1710,	Mr. William Higgs, late of this parish, gave 20l. to poor house-holders and others within this parish, which sum was distributed to them accordingly the 23d day of December	20	0	0

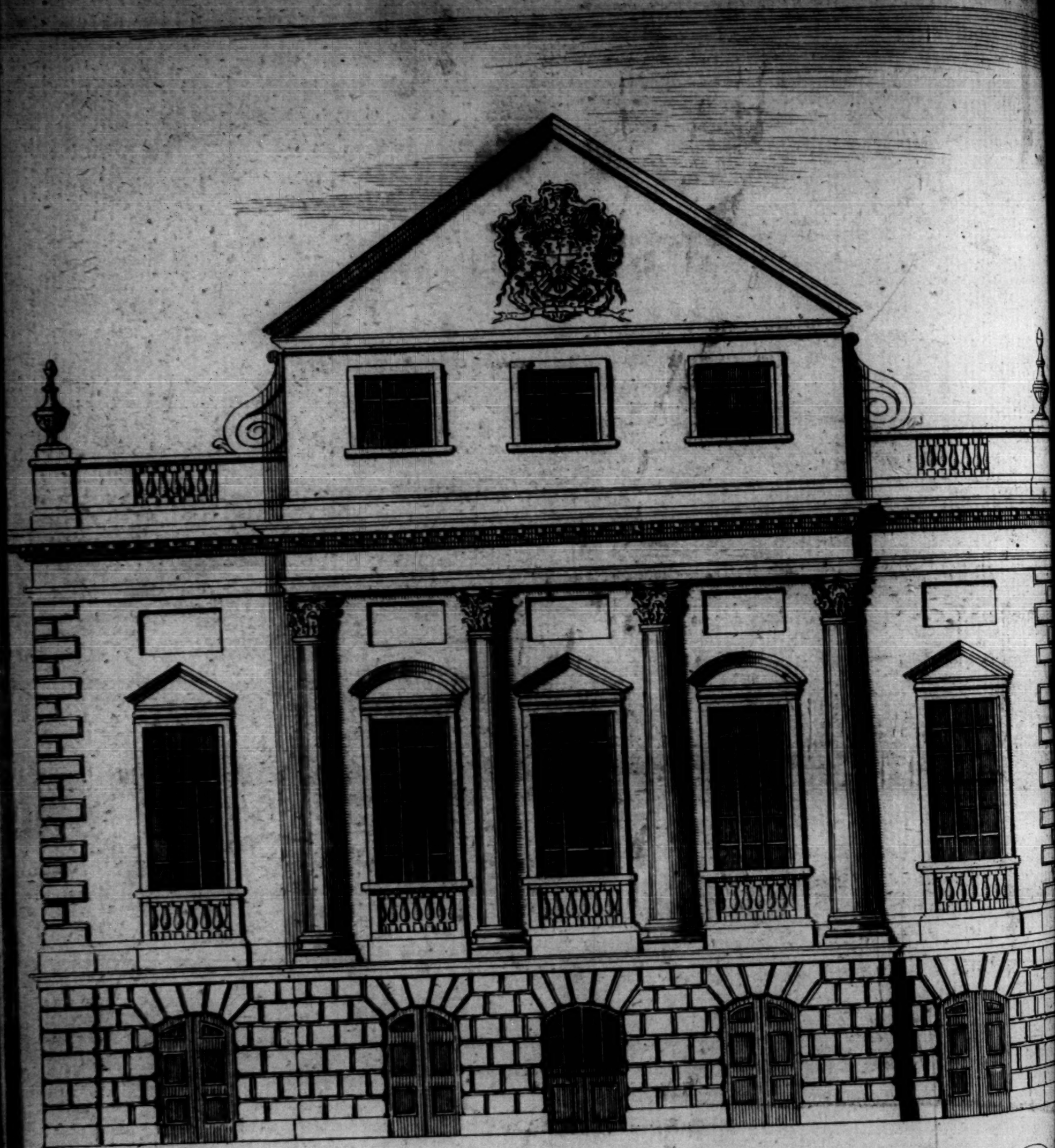
		l.	s.	d.
1712,	August the 6th, Mr. William Evans, of this parish, in memory of his dutiful daughter Martha Evans, gave 20l. to pay 10s. to the minister for a sermon on the same day, and 10s. in bread to the poor for ever	20	0	0
1713,	The Rev. John Read, D. D. late vicar of St. Nicholas church, gave 20l. to the poor of this parish, the interest thereof is to be distributed in bread at the discretion of the churchwardens on the first Sunday after the 15th of February for ever	20	0	0
1714,	Mr. James Croft, of this parish, gentleman, gave 50l. the profit thereof to poor housekeepers of this parish yearly, at the discretion of the overseers and churchwardens	50	0	0
1716,	The 23d of January, William Jackson, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 50l. the interest thereof to poor housekeepers of this parish (not receiving alms) in coals for ever, as the vestry shall direct	50	0	0
1718,	Mr. William Bayly, some time sheriff of this city, gave 50l. the interest thereof to poor housekeepers of this parish, not receiving alms, on the 25th of March for ever	50	0	0
1722,	Capt. John Williams, of Caldee island, in the county of Pembroke, gave 10l. the profit thereof in bread to the poor on the 25th of August for ever	10	0	0
1725,	Mr. Christopher Wallis, a member of the common council, and churchwarden of this parish, gave 30l. the interest whereof is to be distributed to poor housekeepers on the 24th day of October for ever	30	0	0
1726,	Capt. Joseph Whitchurch, late of this parish, merchant, gave 20l. the interest thereof to the poor of the almshouse on the first Sunday in December yearly for ever	20	0	0
1727,	Mr. Derrick Popley gave 10s. per annum for a sermon on the first Sunday in Lent for ever	10	0	0
1728,	Mr. John Brittain, tobacconist, gave 20l. the profit to the poor of this parish on St. John's-day yearly for ever	20	0	0
1729,	Mrs. Alice James, widow, gave 20l. the profit in twelve-penny bread to the poor of this parish, not receiving alms, on Christmas-day yearly for ever	20	0	0
				1730,

1730,	Mr. Richard Bradley, late of Bewdley, gave 10l. to the poor of this parish, which was accordingly to his will distributed	l.	s.	d.
		10	0	0
	Mr. Richard Leverfedge gave 50l. the interest whereof is yearly on the 18th of August to be paid to five poor housekeepers of this parish	50	0	0
1731,	Mrs. Elizabeth Tudor gave 10s. per annum to be distributed on the 8th day of June to two poor widows not receiving alms	10	0	0
1732,	Dr. John Gaskarth, late rector of All Hallows Barkin in London, formerly vicar of this parish, gave 30l. to the poor of this parish, as the vestry should direct	30	0	0
1733,	Mr. John Haythorne, senr. formerly of this parish, whittawer, gave 10l. the interest to be distributed to the poor of this parish in bread yearly on the 24th of June for ever	10	0	0
1734,	Mr. John Stephens, late of this parish, hooper, gave 20l. the interest to be distributed to the poor yearly on the 26th of January for ever	20	0	0
1737,	Henry Walter, Esq; alderman, gave 50l. to the poor of this parish, which was distributed according to his will	50	0	0
1741,	Mr. Thomas Hungerford, senr. formerly of this parish, linen-draper, gave 50l. the interest thereof at 4 per cent. to be distributed to the poor, 20s. in coal and 20s. in bread yearly on St. Thomas's-day for ever	50	0	0
1741,	Mr. Paul Weston, late of this parish, grocer, gave 20l. the interest thereof to the poor on St. Paul's-day for ever	20	0	0
1742,	Mr. Richard Willet, late of this parish, distiller, gave 24l. the interest thereof to six poor house-holders, not receiving alms, on the 29th of May for ever	24	0	0
1683,	John Read, linen-draper, gave 30l. to the poor in bread weekly for ever	30	0	0

In a table in St. Nicholas church is the following list of GIFT SERMONS.

		l.	s.	d.
First Sunday in every month,	Mrs. Elizabeth Hall's	6	0	0
January 9, or Sunday after,	William Chaloner's	0	10	0
Good Friday,	Sir Thomas Langton's	1	0	0
				April





A Front View of the Coopers Hall

						l.	s.	d.
April 23, Sir William Cann's, Knight, 1693	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
May 3, William Burrowes's	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Sunday after Trinity, William Tucker's, alderman	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
Sunday before the 24th of June, George Snow's	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
June 24, Roger Hurt's	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
August 6, Mr. William Evans's, 1712	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
August 3, Mr. Michael Deyos's	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	4
October 28, } John Whitson, Esq;	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
November 7, }	-	-	-	-	-			
December 27, Mr. John Henry's	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
First Sunday in Lent, to be preached at Horfield, the gift of John Langton, alderman	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
First Sunday in Lent, Derrick Popley's	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0

The ground rents and tenements belonging to this parish produce annually about 190l. per annum.

In this parish was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. John, and another on Bristol Bridge, erected and founded by King Edward 3d. and his Queen Philippa, and endowed by the mayor and burgesses of Bristol, to which many left legacies. John Hanker and John Hackston gave two messuages and three shops on the Back of Avon to John Gweyn, chaplain there, to pray for their souls and their wives, &c, 49 Edward 3d. Pope Boniface, the 11th year of his pontificate, by a special letter denounced the wrath of the Almighty and of the apostles Peter and Paul against any one who should hinder divine offices being performed in this chapel, saving nevertheless to the church of St. Nicholas its proper rights, dated at Rome the 11th year of his pontificate; which chapel however has long since been defecrated.

The Cooper's-hall in King-street in this parish presents a building with a handsome front, the elevation of which was published by Halfpenny, the architect, in 1744. The west front is 65 feet 9 inches broad, and the section 65 feet 4 inches. See the plate.

The Custom-House is a large and spacious brick building in the center of the north side of the square, conveniently situated for the merchants to have recourse to, was built by the corporation and possession taken of it in 1711.

There is also here an almshouse erected on ground next the then city wall, granted to the vestry of this church for this purpose. It serves for the habitation of several poor people; but it has no endowment, all here receiving parish pay.

SECT. II.—*Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. LEONARD.*

AT the west end of old Corn-street formerly stood three arched gateways forming together a triangle. The south gate led to Baldwin-street, the north to the Key, and the east which was largest led to Corn-street, over which stood a plain freestone tower, 65 feet high from the ground, and 18 feet in front from north to south and from east to west 10 feet, having four small freestone pinnacles at the top, surrounded with freestone battlements. In the tower were only two bells, one large and the other small. Under the bell-loft within the church was built against the east window a beautiful neat altar. The communion table and rails round it were of mahogany, and part of the floor was laid with black and white marble. The body of the church consisted but of two ailes, extending over the three gateways; and as part of the floor was of timber covered with paving stones and over the arches, it could not admit of any corps being buried there, but on the north side was a small crypt where the dead usually were interred, at the end of which you ascended by a flight of thirteen stone steps to the only door of the church, at the west end of the north aisle, which was in length 35 feet, and the south aisle from the altar to the west window about 55 feet and 30 feet high to the ceiling: the width of both ailes was 30 feet. Hence it appears the church was but small, plain, and of an antient fabric, being supposed to be built soon after laying out the first boundaries of the old town, to the walls of which it joined on each side. It is said in the manuscripts of Rowlie, "Itte was ybuilden bie Algar, a Saxon, in 1010. It has a chauntrie to the honour of St. Baldwyne, whose shryne was therein keppen." It is mentioned in a deed, 25 Edward 1st. 1297, wherein Simon de Burton, about this time founding Redcliff church, grants the tenements he then lived in in Corn-street, newly built within the gate of St. Leonard, to John Dicto, which afterwards paid 6s. 8d. twice a year for the maintenance of a lamp to burn in this church. It is a vicarage, rated in the King's Books at 4l. 1s. 5d. clear yearly value, the number of dwelling-houses about seventy-four, and nine warehouses. Mr. William Pennoyer, a native of the parish, in the year 1670, gave 16l. per annum for preaching a lecture-sermon here once a week, and it was endowed with 200l. Queen Ann's bounty, which with the voluntary contributions of the parishioners made the living about 55l. a year to the vicar. It was in the presentation of the dean and chapter. The last incumbent was the Rev. Mr. John Davie, who removed to St. John's, to which he was presented April 1766, in lieu of this church, which was then pulled down to lay open a new street called Clare-street,

street, and the parish consolidated with St. Nicholas. In 1319 the chapel of St. Giles which belonged to this church being ruinous was pulled down, the chancel bells, books, and vestments destroyed, and in 1331 its revenue being impaired it was wholly annexed to St. Leonard, to which it had been of old subject, and the sacraments and religious offices were to be no more continued there without licence from the vicar, to whom all tenths and oblations were to be paid.

In this parish in St. Leonard's-lane is a free school, endowed by Mr. Penoyer with 10l. per annum to a master to teach 20 boys to read, write, and cypher, and the accidence. He gave also 10l. per annum to an honest widow woman to teach twenty girls to read and sew, and 5l. per annum to the poor of the said parish for ever.

This church was shut up in June 1766, and January 28, 1771 they began to take it down, and sold the altar piece to Backwell in Somersetshire.

A list of the VICARS of St. Leonard's church, so far as can be found in the church books, and in Regist. Wygorn.

PATRONS.	
Abbot and convent of St. Augustin.	1492 William Clark.
1274 Richard de St. Augustino Capell.	1525 Francis Pollard.
1290 John Dumyng, 3 March.	1530 John Hawks.
1323 Robert le Toyt, 3 March.	1534 Thomas Silke.
1326 Philippus de Castro Goderici, died 1328.	1559 Mr. Vaughan.
1328 Hugh de Acton.	1575 Thomas Caverleye, the first Protestant minister.
Philip Sherer.	1600 Mr. Dickley.
1393 William Brytlampton.	1612 Mr. Waltson.
1409 Thomas Chamberleyn.	1613 Richard Williams.
1410 Nicholas Clerkelap.	1626 John Norton, M. A.
1420 Roger Pert.	1690 Samuel Payne.
1426 Robert Pewsey, 25 March.	1721 Robert Clark.
1447 Thomas Knight.	1732 John Sutton.
1450 John Tornour.	1734 Samuel Jocham, 12 September.
1453 Sir John Lewis	1743 William Prichard, 9 July.
1479 William Crosse.	1750 John Berjew, 19 July.
	1753 John Davie, 9 May.

In the year 1615, the 20th of March, Robert Redwood by will gave an house in King-street adjoining the town wall, there to be converted to a library

library for the public use, and ordained that the vicar of St. Leonard's should be librarian, if a graduate in the University and his religion answerable thereto, to be approved of by the mayor and aldermen. This house with some additions was further granted the 12th of April 1636, by Richard Vicaris merchant to the mayor or comonalty to the same use. The 27th of October 1738, it was agreed by a committee of the corporation to rebuild this house, now become ruinous, from the ground, of the following dimensions, 38 feet long, 25 feet wide in the clear, with cellars underneath and offices not exceeding ten feet high for the librarian, and the library room over that 16 feet high, and the front above the ground should be built with freestone. This plan was executed in the year 1739, with an handsome elevation. The old books which were given by Tobias Matthews, Archbishop of York, a native of Bristol, and various people, to the number of 500 were deposited during the building, in the Council-house, and then brought back to the library room, and replaced in elegant oak cases. In the year 1738-9, it appears Wm. Jeffries Esq; mayor, expended in building the library,

	-	-	-	-	-	184	6	7
1739-40, Stephen Clutterbuck Esq; mayor,	-	-	-	-	-	681	3	0
Henry Combe Esq; mayor,	-	-	-	-	-	435	18	6
Total						£ 1301	8	1

But this library has received great improvement and a new establishment by the Bristol Library Society, having this place granted them with the use of the books of the old library by the corporation, and by a new wing being added to the former building in 1786, to hold the number of books now added yearly to the former collection, purchased by the money arising from the annual subscribers and other benefactors, that it now contains a large select collection of books in various sciences and languages of the best editions, which each subscriber under certain rules and regulations, has the liberty to take home to peruse at his leisure, and the library is opened three times in the week mornings at 11 o'clock, and four times a week at 6 o'clock in the evenings, for the citizens subscribing yearly one guinea to resort there to read.

Several lands and tenements were given to this church for obits and chauntries. In 1482 Elias Spelly gave lands yielding yearly 5l. 8s. 8d. and Agnes his wife ditto 1l. 13s. 4d. and 20 marks in money. John Barr, in 1501, gave 40l. to buy vestments, and 60l. for a chauntry for priests to sing for his soul for ten years after his death. Wm. Cooder, 2l. per ann. and a chalice wt. 23 ounces also 20 ounces of silver to make the oil vat, and 40l. to buy the best suit of blue velvet with branches of gold. Wm. Wodington gave to the gilding of the

the figures of our Lady, St. Leonard, and St. Giles, 6l. The plate belonging to this church amounted to 222 ounces and half, which was taken to by King Henry 8, and Edward 6, and 13th August 1549 was delivered into the king's mint of Bristol for his highness's use by virtue of his majesty's letter, the jewels and plate belonging to this church 13lb. 8 ounces two chalices excepted as appears by Mr. Records receipt. In 1553 a fresh demand was made upon the parish, when they left them only one chalice, wt. 9 oz. and three bells. In 1424, some remarkable charges occur which shew the price of things at that time, paid 2d. for a quart of wine, 8d. for washing the sepulchre, paid for two sacks of coals, 2d. (by which it appears coalpits were opened near Bristol as early as that year,) paid for two pounds of candles 2d. In the year 1476 the annual income from ground rents &c. for the support of the church amounted to 9l. 18s. 4d. In 1514, it amounted to 11l. 18s. 4d. In 1751, to 34l. 10s. 4d.

C H A P. XIX.

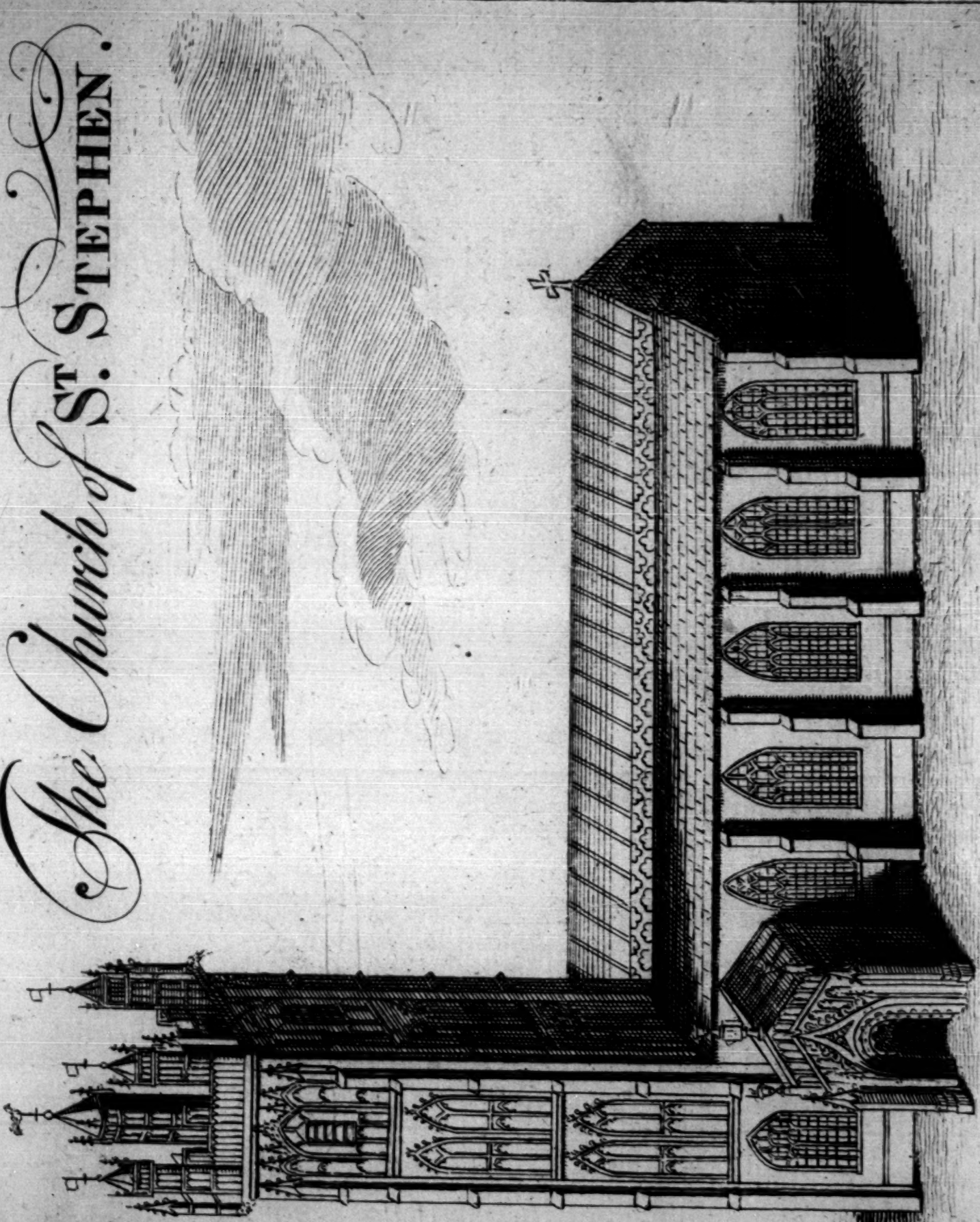
Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. STEPHEN.

THIS church is dedicated to St. Stephen the protomartyr, and formerly belonged to the abbots of Glastonbury, who were probably the founders, being patrons of it till the dissolution. It paid yearly two marks to the infirmary of that abby, (see Johann. Glaston. v. 2. p. 417.) which was the gift of Henry Bishop of Worcester about the year 1378: it paid also a pound of cummin to Glastonbury, which had five messuages in Bristol situated in Marsh-street, at a place called Glastonbury-court to this day. The church stands between the outward and inward walls of the city on the banks of the Frome, which ground the tide formerly flowed over, whence the street adjoining took the name of Marsh-street alias Skadpull-street, the river Frome running nearer this church of old and through Baldwin-street into the Avon: it is frequently mentioned in very old deeds. In 1304 the rector had a legacy left him. William of Worcester, p. 282. says, "The height of the tower of St. Stephen from the erthe table to the gargyle is 21 fathom or 42 yards, and the height from

from the gargyle to the crope which finishes the stone work is 31 feet, and its breadth the east and west part is 12 feet, and north and south 14 feet and from the ground to its very deep foundation is 31 feet; and it has four stories, and in the fourth story are the bells." And p. 235. he says, "The church is 30 yards long and 19 broad, and 44 high, and has seven arches on each side and seven windows, and in each side and each window four dayes; and that the tower is (p. 120.) 125 feet high, besides 31 feet below the ground; and (p. 268.) that the foundation for building is here so bad that they dig 47 feet to make a foundation, and that they found a boat there and a *togh* of bay cloth and a great tree squared of 16 feet long found." There was no tower to this church till the reign of Edward 4th. about 1470. Camden says, (after Leland, vol. vii. f. 61.) it was erected by John Shipward, a wealthy merchant, with great charge and most curious workmanship. This is confirmed by an old inscription formerly on painted glass under the effigies of a man and woman in the great west window, now destroyed: "Orate pro animabus Johannis Shipward et Catherinæ uxoris ejus, qui Johannes istam fenestram fecit et fuit specialis benefactor hujus ecclesiæ." This tower is very lofty and finely proportioned, and a spectator is struck with its beauty. It has from the ground to the top 177 stone steps, each 8 inches high, and measures on the outside 39 yards and 1 foot, and is adorned on the top with four neat Gothic hollow worked pinnacles, each 15 feet high; in one of them the largest a bell is fixed on which the clock strikes the hour. In 1703 three of these pinnacles were blown down in a hurricane on November 27, which by their fall did great damage to the south aisle. There are eight bells in the tower, lately new cast. The church has three aisles, the middle one 88 feet long, the south aisle 88 feet, at the end of which is the new vestry room: the north aisle 60 feet. The church is 56 feet broad: the middle aisle above 50 feet high, the side aisles 25 feet. The whole church is neatly wainscoted, and was new pewed with mahogany by a subscription of the parishioners in 1733. There were formerly seven chauntries endowed for singing mass for the souls of the founders, (see p. 63.) According to the Lincoln manuscript, this church was rated at six marks and a half. The value of the rectory to the incumbent is thus to be computed, viz. in Tucker-street 12l. and Redcliff-pit 5l. at Lawrence Weston, Gloucestershire, 4l. voluntary contributions and surplice fees make the whole amount to about 250l. per annum.

In Regist. Wygor. is a Latin deed, confirming to the monks of Glastonbury an annual pension out of this church of two marks to their infirmary, dated the

The Church of S^T. STEPHEN.





the 8th of the calends of May, 1315. In 1375 Richard Brandon gave 100 shillings to the fabric, and 1398 John Vyel "legavit ecclesiæ Stephani," i. e. "gave to the church of St. Stephen one ring in which was set a stone, part of the very pillar to which Christ was bound at the scourging, to be kept among the relics for ever." In 1473, the 14th of December, John Shipward, senr. was interred here: he left large estates to the poor, especially to the fraternity of St. Clement, and gave this church two curious missals, a large gilt chalice, rich vestments for the high altar, the Guillows-inn in High-street with other tenements, six gardens for two chaplains to celebrate his obiit, the rector with nineteen chaplains, and the mayor, sheriffs, and their officers to attend, who were to choose the chaplains, and dismiss them if incorrigible. Mrs. Ann Peloquin left 400l. to this church, and her house in Prince's-street for the perpetual habitation of the vicar. The present patron is the King, and it is presented to by the Lord Chancellor. The learned and Rev. Josiah Tucker, D. D. is the present incumbent. The lands and ground rents belonging to this church amount to about 50l. per annum. At the dissolution 154 ounces of silver plate belonging to this church, besides many costly vestments, were sold for the use of the king.

RECTORS of St. Stephen's Church.

PATRONS.

Abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

1304 Walter de Mynte.

1330 William de Beynton.

1337 Hugh de Babynton.

1344 Walter le White.

1348 Thomas le Younge.

1360 Roger le Teslayre.

1387 Thomas Barton.

William Estcourte.

1436 Robert Catryke.

1438 John Gomond.

1465 John Harlowe de Stoke, died
December 6, 1486.

1480 William Boket.

1494 Sir Thomas Hanfon.

1498 John Estrefeld, A. M.

1504 Richard Collyns, master of St.
John's hospital, Redclive.
The Crown, Patron.

1554 Hugh Jones.

1562 John Knight

1588 John Tyfon.

1610 Alexander Lawes.

1621 Robert Higgins.

1628 Hugh Hobson,

1641 Richard Harward.

1642 Henry Jones, chancellor of this
diocese, died 1695.

1671 Nicholas Penwarne.

1691 Charles Livesay.

1708 Thomas Frankland.

1731 Henry Becher.

1743 Alexander Stopford Catcott, a good poet, profound linguist, well skilled in the Hebrew and the scripture philosophy, and judicious schoolmaster. 1749-50 Josiah Tucker, D. D. the present incumbent, 1788.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Stephen's Parish.

		l.	s.	d.
1594.	Alderman Robert Kitchen gave 10s. a quarter for ever	40	0	0
1674.	Mr. John Dymer, some time sheriff of this city, gave 10l. the profit thereof in bread quarterly for ever	10	0	0
	Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Joan Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to 52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which St. Stephen's hath a part			
1678.	Mr. John Miner, mariner, gave two tenements and a cellar, the profit to be employed for the binding of apprentices of seamen's sons for ever; also the moiety of six tenements, a stable, and two gardens, for the maintenance of a sermon to be preached in St. Stephen's church the first Friday in every month for ever, and 20l. the profit thereof to be given in bread to the poor the beginning of December yearly for ever	20	0	0
1685.	Mr. Jeremiah Holloway, merchant, gave 20l. the profit in bread to the poor of St. Stephen's parish for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. Thomas Ware, roap-maker, gave 9d. a week in bread for ever	38	5	0
1686.	Elizabeth Dickefon gave 5l. the profit in four-penny bread the 2d of February for ever	5	0	0
1687.	Mr. George Morris, a member of the common council, gave 20l. the profit to the poor at Christmas and Easter for ever	20	0	0
	Sir William Cann, Knight and Bart. gave 100l. to four parishes in this city, whereof this hath a quarter part, the profit thereof to be distributed to the poor the 8th of January for ever	10	0	0
1690.	Mrs. Margaret Abbey gave 40l. to the poor, which was distributed according to her will, and given in bread every Lord's-day	40	0	0

1594, Mr. Robert Kitchen, mayor and alderman of this city,	l.	s.	d.
gave 1s. per week for ever	52	0	0
1637, Mr. Francis Derrick, merchant of this city, deceased, gave			
1s. per week for ever	52	0	0
1638, The parishioners of this parish have purchased 5l. 4s. per			
annum for 2s. per week in bread to the poor for ever	104	0	0
Mr. William Eaton and Mary his wife, of this parish, de-			
ceased, gave 11d. per week for ever	47	10	0
1649, Mr. Richard Long, mayor and alderman of this city, de-			
ceased, gave 6ol. the profit thereof to the poor weekly,			
paid by the chamberlain 3l. per annum	60	0	0
1659, Humphrey Hooke, Esq; twice mayor and alderman of this			
city, gave 4s. in bread and 4s. in coal weekly to the			
poor of this parish for ever	416	0	0
1661, Mr. Francis Gleed, some time sheriff of this city, gave 10s.			
a quarter to a poor house-holder for ever	40	0	0
1701, Arthur Grant gave 20l. the profit to be distributed at			
Christmas yearly to four poor house-holders not receiv-			
ing alms	20	0	0
1709, Captain John Price, late of this city, gave to the church-			
wardens of this parish 10l. the interest thereof to be			
given to the poor in bread on Twelfth day yearly for			
ever	10	0	0
1713, Mrs. Mary Showell, of this parish, widow, gave 10l. the			
interest thereof to the poor in bread on the first Friday			
after the 18th of August yearly for ever	10	0	0
1714, Mr. Isaac Elton, of this parish, merchant, and member of			
the common council, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be			
distributed in bread and coal to the poor of this parish,			
not receiving alms, on the 22d day of November			
yearly for ever	50	0	0
1722, Captain John Williams, of the island of Caldy, in Pem-			
brokeshire, gave 10l. the profit thereof to be given to			
the poor in bread on the 25th day of August yearly for			
ever, by the churchwardens	10	0	0
Mr. William Proffer, needle-maker, gave 20l. the profit			
to a poor family, having more than one child and not			
receiving alms, on the 16th of August for ever, by the			
churchwardens	20	0	0

1727, Mr. John Newman, of this parish, plumber, gave 26l. the interest to the poor in bread weekly for ever	-	26	0	0
1731, Mr. William Freke, merchant, gave 50l. the interest thereof to the poor of this parish yearly for ever		50	0	0
1732, Mr. Thomas Freke, merchant, gave 50l. the interest thereof to the poor of this parish yearly for ever	-	50	0	0
Mr. James Couch, apothecary, gave 10l. the interest thereof to four poor widows, not receiving alms, on Michaelmas-day yearly for ever	- - - -	10	0	0
1738, Mr. James Brown, of this parish, gave 10l. the interest thereof to poor people, not receiving alms, on Good Friday yearly for ever	- - -	10	0	0
1744, A dial over the west door, the gift of Mr. Thomas Horwood, of this parish.				
1639, Alderman George Harrington, of this city, gave 40s. per annum to four housekeepers for ever	- -	40	0	0
1781, Mrs. Ann Peloquin gave to the poor of this parish 400l. and a house for the rectors	- - - -	400	0	0

The following are the principal MONUMENTS of this Church.

In it was buried the 9th of April 1575, Margery wife of George Snigge, Esq; who this year was mayor of Bristol, she died of the plague.

George Snigge, Esq; alderman, was buried the 13th of Feb. 1582.

Sir George Snigge, Knt. Son of the above George Snigge, was buried the 23d of December, 1617. He died the 11th of Nov. and lay in state six weeks, at Merchant Taylor's Hall in Broad-street, from which hall he was conveyed to this church and buried.

At the upper end of the chancel where the communion table, now stands, against the altar, was the tomb of Sir George Snigge, Knt. being inclosed with iron grating, and thereon a statue leaning on his right side, in the habit of a judge. His body was buried in a leaden coffin under the monument, but when the church was new pewed with mahogany in the year 1733, this monument was taken down and removed to the east end of the south aisle where it now stands, with a Latin inscription translated into English thus :

" Here lies the body of George Snygge Knt. serjeant at law, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, a most skilful judge, formerly recorder of this famous city, who in his life time zealously applied himself to the worship of God; he impartially administered justice, was a diligent promoter of virtue, and a severe opposer of vice; he was always a charitable reliever of the poor and needy. He died to the great loss and grief of this his honoured city and much loved

loved country (whose interest he had always at heart) the 11th day of Nov. 1617, in the 73d year of his age.

His loving daughter Ann Snigge hath erected and dedicated this monument in perpetual testimony of her pious gratitude and duty to her most dear father.

Conditur hoc tumulo juris lequamque peritus,

Jus aliis vitæ dixerat atque necis ;

Jus rigidum sævæ mortis vitare nequivit,

Omnia sub leges quæ vocat atra suas.

At vero spoliū mors atra reportat opimum,

Exultans victrix, Io triumphæ, canat.

Eripuit, fateor, miseram mors improba vitam,

Morbis, ærumnis, anxietate gravem.

Ast invita refert etiam mors improba vitam,

Plenam cælesti lumine luce Dei.

Eripuit veros quos præbet mundus honores,

Cælestique dedit semper honore frui.

Against a pillar is a neat monument to " Thomas Freke, Esq; merchant, and Frances his wife and five children, she died the 22d of Nov. 1724, aged 31, he died the 12th of July 1732, aged 38. Arms barre or and sable on a chief 3 mullets of the 1st."

Another handsome monument to " Martin Pring, merchant, sometime general to the East Indies, &c.

Hic terris multum jactatus et undis.

He died 1626, aged 46."

Another to " John Frankland, D. D. dean of Gloucester, and master of Sidney College, Cambridge, 22 years rector of this parish, he died Sept. the 3d 1730, aged 56."

On a stone is an inscription to " Sir Humphry Hook, of Kingweston in the county of Gloucester, he died the 16th of October, 1677, and his wife Florence daughter of Sir Hugh Smyth of Long Ashton, Bart. she died the 3d of Sept. 1692, aged 60, also 2 sons and 4 daughters."

Another to " Samuel Clarke, merchant, who died the 20th of Oct. 1679,

Cælum erat in votis vivi, post fata potitum,

Affequitur vitam vita beata piam.

In the fourth aisle is a monument to " Robert Kitchen and his wife, he died the 5th of Sept. 1594, he was a great benefactor to the poor of this city."

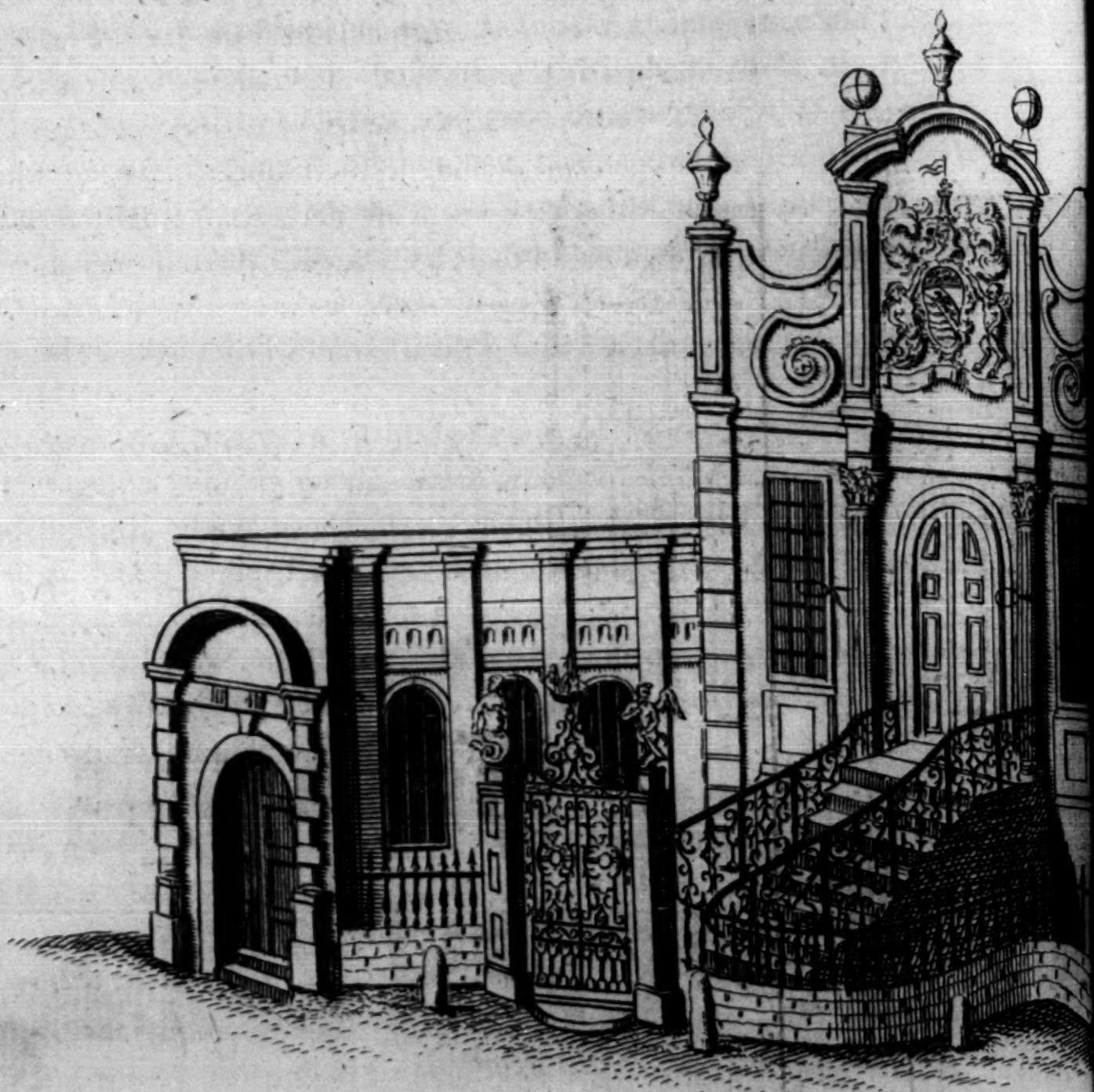
The parish of St. Stephen is large, extending from along Clare-street, the Quay, Marsh-street, King-street, Prince's-street, into the Square, one half of which is in this parish, in which was a chapel dedicated to St. Clement, now demolished: on the site of it is built a spacious hall for the Society of Merchant Venturers, incorporated by King Edward 6th's. letters patent, and afterwards confirmed by Queen Elizabeth and King Charles 1st. It is built of freestone, and consists of two noble lofty rooms, forming the shape of an L, adorned in the inside with the portraits in full length of some principal merchants, benefactors to the society and the commonalty of Bristol. The best idea of it may be formed by viewing the plate. This society are seized of divers manors, lands, and tenements in trust, for the maintenance and support of sundry hospitals, schools, and almshouses, particularly those of Edward Colston, Esq; once a worthy member and great ornament of this society, as he was an honour and blessing to the human race, of whom see p. 443. In 1699 they built their left wing of their almshouse for poor sailors and their widows, contiguous to their hall, rebuilt the old one, and united both angles, for the maintenance of nineteen men and twelve women; six of the men have 2s. a week granted them by Edward Colston, Esq; by fee farm rents for ever.

The merchants and traders of Bristol not free of this company pay certain fees for wharfage on shipping goods, which freemen of the city and company are exempted from, which produces a considerable income to this society, who hold it as lessees under the corporation for 90 years. The lease lately expired has been again renewed.

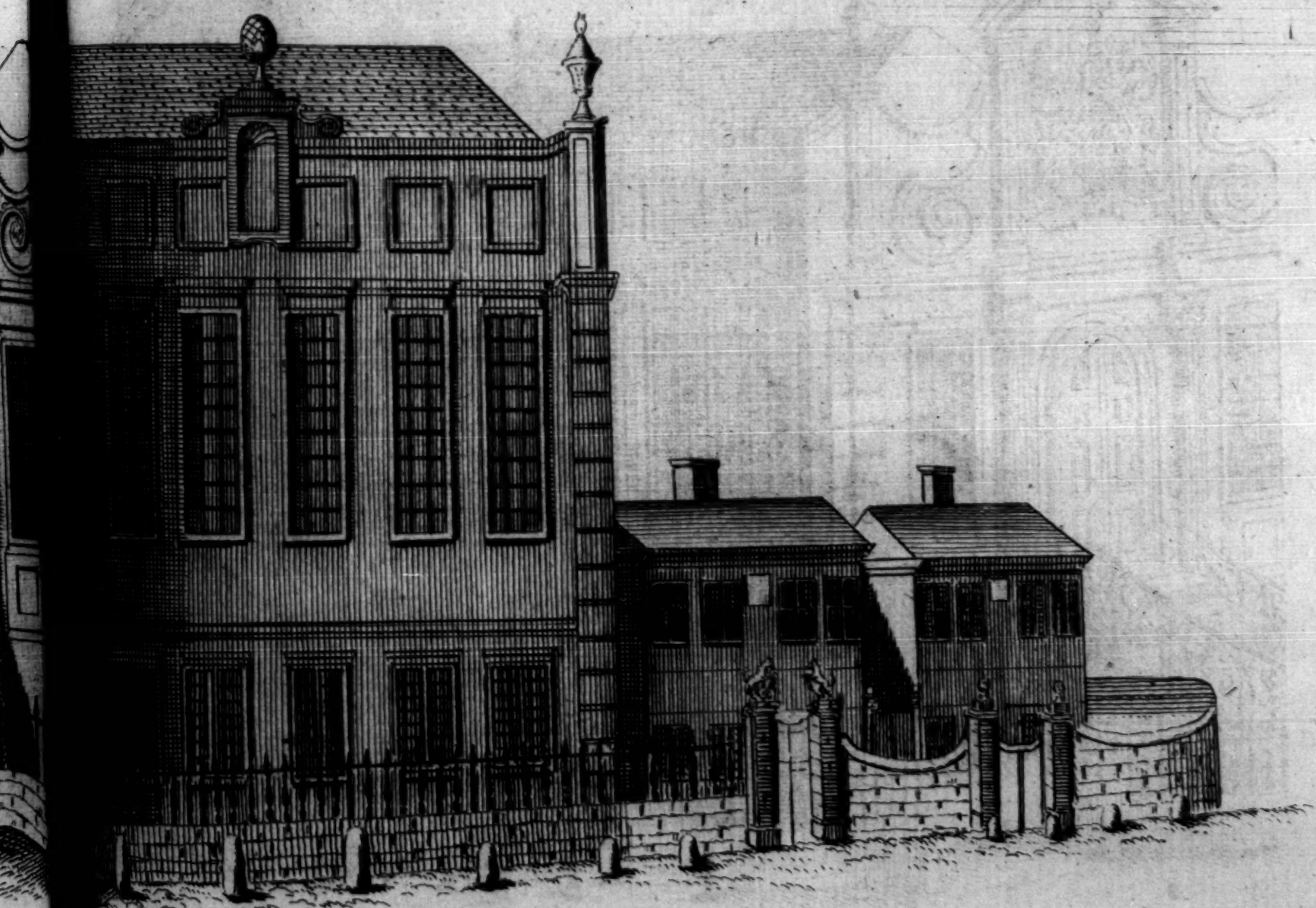
I find in a deed the "Seneschallos Gildæ Mercatorum" mentioned as early as 1240, which proves the existence then of a gild of merchants in Bristol, and to have been of great antiquity.

In 1595 the poor in the Merchants almshouse were maintained by one penny in the pound on seamen's wages, and three halfpence on every ton of shipping; but these payments are now discontinued, and others substituted for the relief of seamen in distress, under the title of the Seaman's Hospital, for which a fund is risen but no building erected.

The Quay conduit, so useful not only to the inhabitants of this parish, but also to the merchants whose ships are supplied with water and the water casks belonging to them are oftentimes filled there, was in the year 1601 built anew, for which work this parish gave 10l. Mr. J. Barker, merchant, 25l. and the chamber of Bristol was at the remaining expence. The water is brought in lead pipes from Glafs Mill, a mile and a half from the city. This conduit was removed



The M



Shants Hall



removed in 1782, when the tontine warehouses were built, and the old houses in the Fish-market taken down and a new and commodious street built called Stephen's-street in their place.

The act for the relief and support of maimed and disabled seamen and the widows and children of such as shall be killed, slain, or drowned in the Merchants service was made in 1747, the 20th of George 2d.

The corporation of the Merchant Venturers of Bristol are appointed trustees for the duties received there.

The fund arises from 6d. per month to be paid by seamen in the Merchants service from all ships belonging to Bristol, and the masters of ships are empowered to keep in their hands 6d. per month out of the wages, shares, or other profits, payable to each seaman.

No hospital is built, though ground was once laid out for it under Brandon-hill, it being alledged the trustees can relieve many more unfortunate objects.

C H A P. XX.

Of the CHURCH of St. PETER and St. PAUL, and that of St. MARY LE PORT.

IT is a rectory, founded before the Norman Conquest by one of the Anglo-Saxon Kings or Earls of Gloucester soon after the castle, to which it seemed at one time to have belonged. And when the earldom of Gloucester was given to Robert Fitzhamon the founder of Tewksbury monastery, he gave this rectory to it; and in 1130 Simon Bishop of Worcester confirmed by deed all the churches to that monastery which it then possessed, among which the church of St. Peter of Briston with the tythes of the rents of Briston is particularly mentioned with its appurtenances within the castle of Bristol (which it had anciently enjoyed) as well as out of the domains of the borough of the town.— In 1106 King Henry 1st. confirmed all things given by Robert Fitzhamon and others to the church of Tewksbury, among which is the church of St. Peter of Bristol, then written Bricstou, and the tythes of the rents of Bristol. (Atkyns's Gloucestershire, p. 738.) And in the year 1194 Henry Bishop of Worcester by

by his charter testifies that, on the presentation of the monks of Tewksbury, he had admitted Richard Cumblain to the moiety of the church of St. Peter, which Stephen de Ripum held before him, paying a yearly pension out of it of 3s. to the church of St. James in Bristol, then a cell to Tewksbury. In the Lincoln manuscript, 1291, 11s. was paid to the prior of St. James, and in 1553 augmented to 20s. per annum, afterwards received by Henry Brayne, Esq; the purchaser of this and other churches of Henry 8th. at the dissolution.

It was situated near to the wall of the castle next the barbican castrum, described to be at the east end of the church. It has three ailes, the north and south being 96 feet long, the middle is 111 feet long; their height about 36 feet; the width of the whole body of the church is 54 feet. The arched roofs covered with Cornish tiles are supported with seven neat pillars of freestone, on which are turned six arches. The tower is large and plain, not very lofty, 26 yards and 1 foot high, with four pinnacles of solid freestone, each about 12 feet high, and battlements round it. It has eight bells, with a clock and dial.

This church was decaying and out of repair, and 1749 a faculty was obtained out of the Bishop's Court to repair and beautify the whole, which cost upwards of 800l. out of which 421l. 12s. was raised by a pound rate on the land holders at 4s. 3d. in the pound, and the rest taken up on the parish security. At the east end of the south aisle was a chapel, dedicated to the honour of the Blessed Mary of Bellhouse. It belonged to a fraternity then newly begun so called, to which William Spicer in the year 1500 gave a garden and house in Marshall-street, as did others. John Esterfield in 1504 had a yearly obit solemnized here for ever on the 18th of February.

R E C T O R S.

PATRONS.

Abbot and convent of Tewksbury.	1362 Petrus de Woodmancote.
1181 Stephen de Ripum.	1369 Nicholas de Wassebourne.
1184 Richard Cumblain.	1384 Thomas Vesey.
1224 David —.	1392 Thomas Pine.
1285 Robert de Leche.	1399 John Grey.
1288 Gregory de Wanberge.	1401 James Fitz Hugh.
1332 John de Draycote.	1409 Thomas Lye.
1333 John de Kemefegh.	1425 Thomas Stevens.
1338 Richard de Greneville.	1431 William Edwards.
1347 John de Wolfrington.	1446 Robert Loude.
1352 Philip Maris.	1450 Hugh Pavis.
	1462 Thomas Bever.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1464 Nicholas Smyth. | 1582 Thomas James. |
| 1488 William Tyfher. | 1610 John Burnley. |
| 1499 John Thomas. | 1618 Robert Pritchard. |
| 1510 William Fadur. | 1642 John Blagroe. |
| 1526 John Williams | 1664 Robert Forfith. |
| 1533 John White. | 1667 Jofias Pleydell. |
| 1542 John Pill. | 1689 Hugh Waterman. |
| 1546 Sir John ap Howel. | 1746 John Jones. |
| Corporation, Patrons. | 1760 Dr. Barry |
| 1561 Sir John ap Alrede. | 1781 Thomas Broughton. |
| 1565 Robert Commandre. | |
| 1574 David Martyn. | |

M O N U M E N T S.

At the entrance of the church on a large flat stone were three brafs figures, now taken away, and the following infcription: "Sub hoc marmore tumulatum est corpus clariffimi viri Johannis Esterfield, hujus oppidi mercatoris et ejusdem bis maioris et aldermanni una cum corporibus Aliciæ, fcolasticæ, et Matildis uxorum ejusdem Johannis, qui obiit 18 Feb. A. D. 1507, quorum animabus propitietur Deus." Underneath on a fcroll: "Domine mi miferere mei."

In the middle aile on a large fstone were three brafs figures for Andrew Norton, Efq; and his wives Elizabeth and Helen, he died the 1ft of Sept. 1527.

In the fame aile is a magnificent monument to the memory of Robert Aldworth, merchant and alderman of this city, who died the 6th of Nov. 1634, with a long latin infcription. He was a great benefactor to this city.

In the north aile a monument to George Harrington, Efq; mayor and alderman of this city, he died the 2d of Jan. 1689.

Upon a fstone in the middle aile was this "Sir John Cadaman, Knt. was beheaded in the caſtle, for killing Miles Callowhill an officer of the garrifon, while Prince Rupert had poſſeſſion of Briſtol, and was buried in this church the 9th of April, 1645.

In the fouth aile is a very large tomb within a Gothic arch, adorned with a great deal of curious workmanſhip and various arms without any infcription, there is the figure of a lady carved, lying upon the tomb who was of the family of the Newtons, of Barrs Court, Glouceſterſhire, as appears from the arms.

In the churchyard was buried the poet Savage, who having experienced a variety of good and bad fortune, at length died in Newgate, and was buried here, Newgate being in this pariſh.

Near

Near the churchyard was formerly an almshouse, now destroyed, erected by Robert Aldworth, who also built the parsonage-house, opposite to which is St. Peter's pump or well of St. Edith, remarkable for fine water.

St. Peter's church plate consists of one flaggon, $74\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, cost 20l. 17s. 4d. inscribed, "Ex dono parochianorum in usum sacrae eucharistiae, A. D. 1682," one silver chalice, 1570, two silver plates, 1682.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Peter's Parish.

1625, Mr. Richard Wickham gave 42l. 8s. the profit thereof to the poor for ever.

Mr. Christopher Kedgwine gave 10s. a year for a sermon for ever.

Mr. Thomas Clements gave a house for two sermons yearly, and the rest to the poor for ever.

Mr. Robert Aldworth gave 100l. the profit thereof to the poor for ever.

1591, Mr. Robert Kitchen gave 40s. a year to the poor for ever.

1639, Mr. George Harrington gave 40s. a year to the poor for ever.

1658, Mrs. Elizabeth Spurt gave 40s. February 17, 1657, 20s. for a sermon the 29th of June and 20s. to the poor of this parish yearly for ever.

1661, Mr. Francis Glead, some time sheriff, gave 10s. a quarter to a poor house-holder for ever.

1673 Mr. Henry Northall gave a house in Broadmead for the use of the poor for ever.

1661, Mr. William Balman gave 52s. yearly to the poor alms-folks of this parish, being 12d. in bread every Lord's-day for ever.

1677, Mrs. Mary Davis gave 20l. the profit thereof 10s. for a sermon on the 17th of July, the rest to the poor in bread for ever.

Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Joan Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to 52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a proportion.

1682 Mr. Vincent Thorn, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor for ever.

1683, William Colston, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof to two poor housekeepers of this parish yearly for ever.

1685, Mr. Nicholas Tilly, of this parish, gave 50l. the profit thereof in two-penny bread to poor housekeepers weekly for ever.

1686, Mr. Samuel Hall, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof weekly to the poor in bread for ever, and also the interest of 230l. towards the placing apprentices of poor children in seven parishes of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish is one.

1688, John Lawford, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 12d. a week in bread to the poor of this parish for ever.

1690, Mr. Edward Tilly, of this parish, gave 100l. to four parishes in this city, whereof this parish hath a quarter part, the profit thereof to be given weekly to the poor in bread for ever.

1691, Edward Fielding, Esq; and alderman of this city, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given to two poor housekeepers of this parish (receiving no alms) on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever, and formerly gave 10l. towards setting up the bells.

1692, Mrs. Elizabeth Fielding, widow, gave 10l. the profit thereof to one poor inhabitant of this parish (receiving no alms) on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever.

1695, Mr. William Opie, some time sheriff of this city, and inhabitant of this parish, gave 26s. a year, to be given weekly in bread to three poor people of this parish for ever.

1699, Mrs. Ann Longman gave 195l. to the poor of this city, of which this parish hath a part.

Samuel Wallis, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 20s. for preaching a sermon annually in this church on the day of electing a governor, &c. for the better providing for the poor of this city, and 5s. to the clerk and sexton to be divided between them, received from the treasurer of St. Peter's Hospital.

1698, Mr. Thomas Harris, late of this parish, apothecary, left 10l. to be distributed to five poor housekeepers, 10s. each, for four years.

1699, John Hicks, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave the profit of a house in Temple-street, to be distributed yearly to six of the poorest men or women of this parish (not receiving alms) on the 13th day of February for ever.

1703, Mr. Richard Beauchamp, late of this parish, now of London, gave 30l. the profit to be distributed to three poor housekeepers of this parish (not receiving alms) on Good Friday for ever.

1706, Mr. Robert Berkeley, late of this parish, gave the sum of 100l. the profit thereof to be employed for the placing of a poor boy of this parish apprentice every year for ever, the said boy not belonging to the Mint.

1707, Mrs. Susanna Haynes, of this parish, gave 30l. the profit thereof to be distributed among six poor women of this parish equally on the 13th of April yearly for ever.

- 1712, Mrs. Hannah Fielding, daughter of Alderman Fielding, gave 20l. the profit thereof for the keeping at school a poor child or children of this parish yearly for ever.
- 1714, Sir William Clutterbuck, Knight, some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 40l. to this parish, the profit thereof to be given to the poor in bread every Lord's-day for ever.
- Thomas Trye, of Hanham, Esq; gave 40l. to this parish, the profit thereof to the payment of 40s. per annum for ever to the minister of the said parish, for instructing the youth in the church catechism during the time of Lent.
- 1720, Mr. John Short, of the Castle Precincts, gave 30l. the profit to four poor widows of this parish (not receiving alms) on the 1st of November yearly for ever.
- 1724, Mr. Richard Gravett, Esq; gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish on the first Sunday in every month for ever.
- Mrs. Elizabeth Fitzall, of the Castle Precincts, gave the sum of 100l. the interest of it to be distributed half yearly in bread among poor housekeepers in this parish (not receiving alms.)
- 1728, Thomas Moor, Esq; of St. Michael's parish in this city, gave 50l. the interest thereof to be laid out by the churchwardens in cloathing poor housekeepers in this parish on the 4th of January yearly, and one moiety of 8l. 15s. being the ground rent of two houses on St. James's-back, to be likewise laid out by the churchwardens in cloathing poor men on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever.
- 1733, Mr. James Birch, late of this parish, gave 60l. the profit thereof for a sermon in this church and a dinner for the vestry on the 10th of December yearly for ever.
- 1746, The Rev. Mr. Hugh Waterman, fifty-seven years rector of this parish, gave 100l. viz. 20s. part of the interest thereof for a sermon the second Sunday in August; the remaining interest to cloath some poor person or persons of this parish (frequenting the communion of the church of England) at Christmas for ever.

The ground rents and tenements belonging to this church estate produce about 80l. per annum, besides renewals. This parish is of no large extent, consisting only of 203 houses in 1749, paying 225l. poor rate to St. Peter's Hospital at 11½d in the pound. This hospital was erected at the great house in St. Peter's church yard, formerly inhabited by Thomas Norton, Esq; M. P. for this city in 1399 &c. afterwards by Robert Aldworth, Esq; and in the years

years 1696, and 1697, the 7th and 8th of William 3d. the hospital was established by act of parliament, with a governor and deputy governor, treasurer and guardians. The money they were empowered to raise in the year 1696, for the city poor was 2380l. 16s. in 1716, 3500l. in 1736, 3500l. in 1756, 4500l. in 1763 it was 6842l. 7s. 9½d. and in 1783, 16548l. 12s. 2½d. which makes the sum of 9706l. 4s. 5d. increase of expenditure in 20 years, owing chiefly to the number of poor gaining settlements by renting houses of 10l. a year, and being charged and paying in their own name to the poor rates. Besides being erected as an hospital for the support of the poor of the city, fundry benefactions were given at different times to establish an infirmary there for the relief of the sick and diseased, which amounted in the whole to 4905l. 10s. 0d. as appears by the tables in the committee room. The corporation of the poor have a seal, being a hive of bees flying about, with this inscription, "Sigillum Guber: dep: Gæb: assistant: et Guardian - pauper: Civitat: Bristol:" with this motto "Hyemis memores æstate laborant."

Newgate in this parish was built by a tax on the inhabitants of the city, for every 100l. stock 1s. 6d. for every 20l. per annum 3d. It bears the following inscription on the front.

Ædificatum
Sumptibus Civium et incolarum
Hujus Civitatis.
Anno Domini MDCXCI
Johanne Knight Equite Prætoræ
Roberto Dowdin }
Johanne Yeamans } Vicecomitibus.

SECT. II. — *Of the CHURCH of St. MARY LE PORT.*

IT is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and most probably had William Earl of Gloucester for its founder: for he is expressly said about 1170, in the time of Henry the 2d. to have granted and confirmed this church to the priory of Keynsham, for the sustentation of the canons there, as appears in the recital of King Edward 2d deed dated 5th Jan. 1318, confirming that donation. In the Lincoln manuscript 1291, is the valuation of this rectory thus, "Ecclesia Beatæ Mariæ portus Abbati Keynsham 20s."

It has two ailes and stands on a rising ground above the Avon the north side of it; and there formerly was a gradual ascent to it from the river: where ships of old time usually discharged their cargoes — see p. 97, note, whence it took the name of Mary of the port. The south aile from the great west door

under the tower to the altar is in length 107 feet, the north aisle 73 feet, the two aisles are 37 feet in breadth, the south aisle is 26 feet high: and the roof covered with Cornish tile, and the whole supported with six freestone arches and seven pillars neatly fluted and painted, the pews are of Dutch oak, and the altar piece neatly embellished and painted, inscribed at the top with *Johovah Aleinu*, in Hebrew characters within a glory; יהוה אלהינו *JEHOVAH OUR ALIEM IS ONE JEHOVAH*. The tower has 108 steps, and is from the ground to the floor of the leads 72 feet, on it are four pinnacles, in it are eight bells put up in 1749, being then recast; on the tenor very old was this inscription in Gothic letters, "*Maria: filii: tui: auxilio: Guberna: parochia: tuæ in Horâ.*"—There were many chapels in this church.—Phillis Holloway in 1417 gave 20l. by will to found a chapel for a priest to pray for her soul.—Mr. John Inhyng 1457 by will gave fifteen shops and a rack in Bear-lane in Temple-street, and a house there for mass to be celebrated for ever on Valentine's day in the chapel of St. Katherine, and that eight priests should attend the celebration, each to have 4d.—John Newman settled the rent of his tenement in the Shambles for another mass.—These chauntries were all suppressed 37 Henry 8th. 1546, and given to the King.

The following curious account of this church was given by Chatterton, as transcribed by him from Rowley, which is submitted to the judgment of the reader:

Seyncte Maries Chyrche of the Porte.

Thys chyrche was ybuyldenne in M..XVI. by a Saxonne manne cleped Eldred, botte somme thynkethe he allein dyd itte begynne leevynge oders to fynyshe ytte fromme a stone in the suth walle onne whyche ytte was wrotenne, Eldredrus posvit primum lapidem in nomine patris filii et spiritus sancti, M.XVI. butte understonders of auntyauntrie fynde ytte enured in buyldeynges solelie reared bie the manne ementioned. Itte was endowed wythe the landes wytheoute the walles of Brystowe, and exempted for its paryshe from castle tyne. Ynne ytte was a manne ynne Chriestenmas M.C.X.XX. fleene wythe a Levynbronde. Ynne M.CCC. ytte was repayred bie Roberte Canynge of the house of Wyllyam Canynge. Bie the bochorde of the reveltrie ytte appeeres thatte manie dowghtie dysputes haven beene han of the Fleshe Shamble claymen bie the queene ynne dower ynne castle garde. Before the daies of Roberte Canynge, greete fyre of Wyllyam Canynge, greete barks dydde ryde before Corporatyonne streete, butte Mastre Roberte haveynge twoe of large howsen in Radclefte and workehowses meinte willeile drewe the trade to the oder syde of the brugge toe the greete annoie of

Seyncte

Seynste Marie of the Porte the honowre of Seynste Marie of Redcleeft, the enlargeth of thatte fyde, and the honowre and dygness of hys owne familie. From him dyd the glorie of the Canynges ryse; Mr. Wyllyam Canynge having his pycture, whereyn ys he commandeinge houses to ryse from the moddie bankes of ryver. He repaired as above yn atone for forwininge the trade, and was there imburyed undorre a stone full fayre of whomme dydde I thus wryte, whyche ys graven onne brasse and wylle eftsoones bee putte on hys stone :

Thys Morneyng Starre of Radcleves rysynge raie,
 A true man, goode of minde, and Canynge hyghte
 Benethe thys stone lies moltrynge ynto claie,
 Untylle the darke tombe sheen an aetern lyghte.
 Thyrd from hys loyns the presente Canynge came;
 Houten are anie wordes to telle his doe,
 For aie, shall lyve hys heaven recorded name,
 Ne shalle ytte die whanne tyme shall be ne moe.
 When Mychaels trompe shall sounde to rize the soule
 He'lle wyng toe heaven with kynne and happie be their dole.

RECTORS of St. Maryport.

PATRONS.

Keynsham abby.

- 1272 Robert —, rector.
- 1288 John Homme.
- 1314 Simon de Welles.
- 1327 John le Leche.
- 1335 William de Pendleford.
- 1342 William Horfeley.
- 1348 William de Taverner.
- 1388 John Weston.
- 1396 William Ryel.
- 1400 Richard Roche.
- 1411 Walter Ellyott.
- 1417 Thomas Stephens.
- 1436 David Brenny.
- 1448 John Kemeys.
- 1453 Roger Rygelyne.
- 1465 John Talbot.
- 1470 John Bersey.
- 1482 John Hawley.

- 1501 Richard Boyce.
- 1534 Lodowick Johns.
- 1543 Bartholomew Leweck.
- Sir Thomas Bridges, Patron.
- 1544 Thomas Greede.
- 1547 John Pitt.
- 1560 Richard Arthur.
- 1605 Alexander Lawes.
- 1620 Edward Alman.
- 1663 Robert Forfith.
- 1664 George Willington.
- 1671 Josias Pleydell.
- 1689 Hugh Waterman.
- Duke of Chandois, Patron.
- 1746 William Saunders, D. D.
- 1750 John Collinson.
- 1779 John Neal.

The Monuments and Epitaphs in this church worthy notice are the following:

At the east end of the north aisle is an old arched monument with two pillars at the sides, at the top of each are the letters J. E. but what names they designate it does not appear from any inscription.

In this aisle are three neat marble monuments against the north wall,

" To the memory of Thomas Smith, apothecary, son of Bernard Smith, apothecary, mayor of Taunton, and Catherine, daughter of Nicholas Standfast, apothecary, grand daughter of Richard Standfast, M. A. chaplain in ordinary to his sacred Majesty King Charles 1st. who on account of his inviolable loyalty to the king and firm attachment to the church, was for fourteen years deprived of the rectory of Christ Church in this city, whereof he was incumbent upwards of fifty-one years; but on the restoration of the king restored to his benefice, and promoted to the dignity of a prebendary of the cathedral church of this city, wherein notwithstanding a total privation of sight he continued to discharge the respective duties of each province, as an able, diligent, and orthodox divine Thomas Smith died October 8, 1730: Catherine, his wife, April 15, 1743."

Within the north door under this monument about three feet on the east side of the door was to be seen in the ground an old mooring post, preserved till lately, to which ships were formerly moored, when they were discharged on the beach, where the Shambles lately were, now Bridge-street, see William of Worcester, p. 170. 189. before the building of the stone bridge over the Avon in 1247.

Another near the former, " To the memory of Standfast Smith, apothecary, a native of this parish, this stone is inscribed by Thomas Smith, his elder and surviving brother. Inheriting the sound principles of his family, he was ever a strenuous advocate for our most excellent constitution in church and state, and having lived in great esteem for his free and public spirit and liberality on all occasions, he died much lamented the 18th of October, 1774."

Another thus: " Beneath this monument are deposited the remains of Thomas Smith, gentleman, late of the parish of St. James, apothecary, but a native of this. He died the 28th of October, 1779. Being solicitous of giving some testimony of his veneration and regard for the religious offices of the church of England, which when living from principle he admired and loved, he left by will 400l. the interest thereof for celebrating divine service every Wednesday and Friday morning in this church of St. Maryport for ever."

Another,

Another, " To the memory of Thomas Kington, of Notton, Wilts, Esq; who changed this short life for a blessed immortality, October 15, 1786, aged 48 years. He married Sufanna, youngest daughter of Austin Goodwin, Esq; formerly one of the sheriffs of this city : by her he had nine children, four of whom lie buried with him in the same vault. Under the deepest sense of her own and of her children's loss, his afflicted widow inscribes this stone to the best of husbands, and the best of fathers."

At the entrance of the west door was: " Hic jacet corpus Johannis Borus hujus villæ... et Agnetis quondam uxoris ejus. Obiit 10 Feb. 1476, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus."

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of this Parish.

- 1594, Robert Kitchen gave 10s. a quarter to the poor for ever.
- 1639, George Harrington, alderman, gave 10s. to the poor for ever.
- 1661, Francis Glead gave 10s. a quarter to the poor for ever.
- 1668, Abraham Birkin gave 10s. a quarter in bread, and 20s. for a sermon.
- 1685, Mrs. Boucher and Langton gave 10s. apiece to several poor widows.
- 1690, Mr. Edward Tilly gave 25l. the interest to the poor in bread for ever.
- 1695, Mrs. Elizabeth Pitt gave 10l. the interest yearly to the poor.
- 1736, A private donation of ten guineas, the interest in bread yearly.
- 1774, Standfast Smith, apothecary, gave this church the branch and crimson velvet furniture for the desk and pulpit, &c.
- 1782, Thomas Smith gave 400l. 40s. to the clerk and sexton and the remainder of the interest to the rector for reading prayers twice a week. The money was laid out in the funds.

There is a small churchyard adjoining walled round.

In the year 1729 this parish consisted of about 96 houses, then rated to the poor 128l. at 10½d. in the pound; but is since much enlarged and improved by the new buildings in Bridge-street. The churchwardens used to receive a sum for the penns for sheep and swine, which used to be placed every market day in front of the church and the houses there, before the new present market was laid out.

This parish estate in the rents of tenements and ground rents produces about 78l. per annum, and the church has in plate one silver flaggon 57 ounces 10 pennyweights, one silver cup and cover gilt 57 ounces 5 pennyweights, and two silver plates 28 ounces 15 pennyweights.

C H A P. XXI.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. PHILIP and JACOB.

THIS Church was founded early, being first a chapel to a religious house or priory (probably Tewkesbury) of the order of St. Benedict, situated at the east part of the present church; which was afterwards enlarged as the inhabitants increased, and the old market held here for the use of the castle and the town brought a great conflux of people.—The exact time when it became parochial is not known, but it was very early, being mentioned in Gaunt's deeds before the year 1200, and like St. James became a parish church through the accession of inhabitants.—The present church is large and spacious, consisting of a body and side ailes, and a handsome embattled tower (with eight bells and a clock) on the south side between the church and the chancel. It appears to have been built at different times, and was repaired not long since at a very large expence.

It was a rectory, but afterwards made a vicarage and appropriated to the abby of Tewkesbury, and purchased by H. Brayne of Henry 8th. in 1578: Sir Charles Somers and G. Winter Esq; who married the coheiresses of Brayne, had the right of patronage, and sold it to the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, the present patrons.

It is rated in the King's books at the clear yearly value of 43l. 16s. the yearly tenths were 1l. 10s.

It is worth to the incumbent in tythes in the out-parish, collections and fees about 200l. per annum.

There were two chauntries here, one founded by J. Kemys 12s. another by Robert Forthey 12s. which were sequestered 1 Edw. 6th. 1547.

William of Worcester, p. 247, says, "there was a parish church here near the church of the priory in the east side of the city."

The length of the body of the church from the end of the chancel, composed of the middle, north and south ailes, is 26 yards; the length of Kemys's aile is 16 yards, and 4 yards and 1 foot wide, and 8 yards high.

In

In the year 1388, the 2d of April, Henry Wakefield Bishop of Worcester, by deed in the White Book at Worcester, f. 337, 338. appropriated and annexed the then rectory of St. Philips to the monastery of the Blessed Mary of Tewksbury, they having complained to him of their poverty and inability of maintaining hospitality to all comers at their house, situated as it was next to the public road, and of their losses and ruinous state of their buildings and other burdens they were subject to, a grant therefore also being obtained of the King, reserving only out of the fruits and profits of the said church a fit and sufficient portion for the support of the vicar, to be presented by them and admitted by the bishop, which portion was to be comprehended under the grant and appropriation of it to them, expressly to be deducted out of the profits of the said church. They were to take possession upon the death or resignation of the then rector, and to dispose of the rents and profits of it, &c. at their will, paying annually to the cathedral church of Worcester half of a mark or 10s. an annual pension every Michaelmas-day, under the penalty of 5l.

And by a deed, dated 1394, entituled, "*Dotatio Vicariæ Sti. Jacobi*," (Reg. Wyg. Clyfford, f. 75.) Richard Bishop of Worcester ordains, that Hugh Hope, the first vicar, shall have a manse or dwelling-house built for him, at the expence of the abbot and convent, to be maintained and supported afterwards by the said vicar and his successors, and should receive out of the profits of the said church yearly by the hands of the prior of the priory of St. James twelve marks of silver: all other profits arising out of the said church received by the vicar to be paid to the religious of Tewksbury or their prior of St. James, the vicar to do all the duty, and have the cure of souls in the said parish; and as by a statute of the 4th of Richard 2d. the diocesan upon all appropriations of churches should order a convenient sum of silver to be distributed amongst the poor of the parish out of the profits of the church, Richard Bishop, 1403, ordered 6s. 8d. only to be given at Christmas yearly to the poor by the religious of Tewksbury, on account of the smallness of the church and its revenues.

In 1279, 12th Sept. process was issued out of the office of the Bishop of Worcester against Peter de la Mare, constable of the castle of Bristol, and others his accomplices, for infringing the privileges of the church, in taking out William de Lay fled for refuge to the churchyard of St. Philip and Jacob, for carrying him into the castle and imprisoning him, and lastly cutting off his head. Nine or ten being involved in this crime, their sentence was to go from the church of the Friars Minor in Lewin's-mead to the church of St.

Philip and Jacob through the streets naked, except their breeches and in their shirts, for four market days for four weeks, each receiving discipline all the way: and Peter de la Mare was enjoined to build a stone cross at the expence of 100s. at least, that one hundred poor be fed round it on a certain day every year, and that he should find a priest to celebrate mass during his life where the bishop shall appoint.

The stone cross above is mentioned by William of Worcester: "Altæ crucis prope fossam castri Bristoll."

A list of the RECTORS and VICARS of the church of St. Philip and Jacob.

PATRONS.	
Abbot and convent of Tewksbury.	1504 Thomas Strange.
1275 Rich. Hammond de Newynton.	1505 James Botiller.
1290 Robert Anketul.	1511 William Burgill.
1328 Ralph de Wymborne.	1513 John Gardiner.
1331 Walter de Kaerwent.	1526 John Collis, A. M.
1340 Walter Freeman.	1545 Nicholas Corbet.
1346 Richard le Small.	David Conden.
1348 John de Wydcombe.	Mayor and common council, Patrons.
Nicholas de Ufk.	1562 Thomas Colman.
1349 Nicholas de Fisherton.	1604 William Yeman.
1351 William Sandevere.	1633 John Pierce.
1394 Hugh Hope, first vicar.	1661 Edward Hancock.
1400 John White.	1663 Thomas Godwyn.
1420 Philip Fulgare.	1675 Thomas Cary
1421 Stephen Graunger.	1712 Joseph Taylor.
1422 John Heaneman.	1723 William Cary, son of Tho. Cary.
John Faurthermore.	1758 Carew Reynell, son of the Chan-
1435 John Laurence.	cellor Carew Reynel, Bishop
1471 Richard Chylde.	of Down and Connor.
1475 Lodowic Williams.	1770 James New.
1481 Mile Terre.	
1493 Robert Browne.	

M O N U M E N T S.

'In Kemys's aile by the chancel is a handsome monument with his figure in robes of magistracy to H. Merrit, Esq; sberiff of this city, and a benefactor to the parish, he died the 11th of Sept. 1692, in the 71st year of his age.

In

In the north aisle on a stone is an inscription to H. Merrit, the younger, goldsmith: he died the 10th of June, 1698, aged 40.

A neat monument to the memory of three children of Thomas and Mary Chamberlain.

Another to Thomas Warren, who died January 23, 1722, aged 68.

On a stone an inscription to Gabriel Wayne: he died the 15th of January, 1722, aged 75.

On a raised tomb an inscription to Edward Cox, merchant, who died August 3, 1627, aged 57.

Another inscription to Thomas the son of H. Whitehead, who died the 15th of August, 1700. Also William Whitehead, some time sheriff, who died the 25th of February, 1720, aged 40.

In the chancel are several hatchments of the Elton family, and on a stone an inscription to Isaac Elton, merchant, who died the 23d of October, 1714, aged 34, and his two daughters both baptized Mary; and on another to Elizabeth the wife of Peter Day, Esq; daughter of Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. who died the 6th of November, 1718, aged 26. Also on a stone the following inscription: — "Hic sita sunt ossa Johannis Price interioris templi Londinensis juris consulti, qui postquam per 40 amplius annos pace summâq; rerum affluentia fructus vir reipublicæ studiosus vixerat, et revulsas dein ab effrenata turbâ sacratas heu! olim felicissimi regni leges, violatam majestatem et jus omne divinum humanumque viderat, reducta demum per serenissimum regem urbe hâc avitâ prædia suburbana reversus pertæsus fragilitatis humanæ fati concessit quintâ die idus Octobris anno salutis 1643, ætatis suæ 61."

On a stone is the figure of a cross bow and a dog and round the verge of it, "Thomas Putley, some time keeper of the Queen's forest, departed the last day of October, A. D. 1596." — This was when Kingswood was a demesne, and in possession of the crown.

Here is also a monument to William Vigor, gentleman, who died the 20th of February, 1719; also his son William, who died the 19th of June, 1730, aged 33.

An inscription to Thomas Cary, vicar of this church: he died the 30th of October, 1711, aged 61.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Philip's Parish.

1705, Mr. Samuel Davis, some time sheriff of this city, gave 50l.	l.	s.	p.
the profit thereof to the poor of the in-parish weekly in			
bread for ever	-	-	-
			50 0 0
T T T 2			1708,

- | | | l. | s. | d. |
|--|---|----|----|---------|
| 1708, Mr. John Edwards, of this parish, wheelwright, gave 50l. | | | | |
| the profit thereof to be distributed to ten poor house- | | | | |
| keepers of the in-parish, not receiving alms, on the 27th | | | | |
| of January yearly for ever | - | - | - | 50 0 0 |
| 1709, Mr. Nicholas Whiting, of this parish, gave 10l. the profit | | | | |
| thereof to the poor of the out-parish for ever | - | - | - | 10 0 0 |
| 1712, Mrs. Eleanor Bayly, widow, of the out-parish, gave 20l. | | | | |
| for the use and benefit of this church, to be disposed of | | | | |
| at the discretion of the present churchwardens | | | | 20 0 0 |
| 1715, Joseph Jackson, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of | | | | |
| this city, gave 40s. yearly to the in-parish for the bene- | | | | |
| fit of their poor, and 4l. yearly to the poor of the Castle | | | | |
| Precincts for ever | - | - | - | 120 0 0 |
| 1712, Mr. Samuel Perry gave 5l. to the out-parish for binding | | | | |
| out an apprentice (not upon the alms) to a free trades- | | | | |
| man in this city yearly for ever | - | - | - | 100 0 0 |
| Henry Whitehead, formerly mayor and alderman of this | | | | |
| city, gave 40l. the interest thereof to be disposed of by | | | | |
| the churchwardens to poor housekeepers of the in-parish | | | | |
| not receiving alms on Candlemas-day yearly for ever | | | | 40 0 0 |
| 1730, Mr. John Jaines, of this city, mariner, gave in his life | | | | |
| time two tenements in Cheese-lane, the profit thereof | | | | |
| for the cloathing of as many poor men's widows of this | | | | |
| parish, as the clear rent shall amount to on Sept. 29, | | | | |
| for ever. | | | | |
| Mr. Edward Cox, of this city, gave 8l. per annum to the | | | | |
| poor, and 4l. for eight sermons yearly for ever. | | | | |
| 1694, Mr. Alderman Kitchen gave 40s. per annum to house-hol- | | | | |
| ders who are poor for ever. | | | | |
| 1639, Mr. Alderman Harrington gave 40s. per annum to the poor | | | | |
| for ever. | | | | |
| Mr. Abraham Clements gave 30s. per annum to the poor | | | | |
| of the out-parish, and 10s. for a sermon the 1st of January | | | | |
| for ever. | | | | |
| Mr. Francis Glead, of this city, gave 40s. to the poor to be | | | | |
| paid quarterly for ever. | | | | |
| Mr. William Burroughs gave 20s. per annum to the poor | | | | |
| for ever. | | | | |

Mr. Thomas Farmer gave 50l. the profit thereof to the		l.	s.	d.
poor for ever		50	0	0
Mr. William Curtice gave 50l. the profit thereof to the		50	0	0
poor for ever		50	0	0
Mr. Abraham Birkins gave 5s. per annum to the poor in		5	0	0
bread for ever		5	0	0
Mr. John Harford gave 5l. 15s. 4d. per annum to the poor				
for ever.				
Mr. Timothy Parker gave 5l. the profit thereof to the poor				
in bread yearly for ever		5	0	0
Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Joan Langton,				
widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to				
52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which				
this in-parish hath a proportion.				
1734,	Capt. John Roure, of this parish, merchant, gave 20l. to			
	to the churchwardens, the profit thereof to be given in			
	bread to the poor of the out-parish on the 27th of August			
	yearly for ever	20	0	0
	Mr. Anthony Whitehead, of this parish, gave 20l. the			
	profit thereof to the poor house-holders of the out-parish,			
	not receiving alms, on the 1st of May yearly for ever	20	0	0
1685,	Mr. Jeremiah Hollway, of this city, merchant, gave 30l.			
	the profit thereof to the poor of the in-parish yearly			
	for ever	30	0	0
1686,	Mr. Samuel Hale, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof			
	weekly to the poor in bread for ever: and also the			
	interest of 230l. towards the placing apprentices of poor			
	children in seven parishes of this city yearly for ever,			
	of which this parish is one.			
1687,	Sir William Cann, Knight and Bart. gave 100l. to four			
	parishes in this city, whereof this hath a quarter part,			
	the profits thereof to be distributed to the poor the 8th			
	of January for ever.			
1688,	John Lawford, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of			
	this city, gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor of the			
	in-parish yearly in bread for ever	50	0	0
1689,	Mr. William Scott gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor			
	of the in-parish yearly for ever	10	0	0
				1689,

1689,	Mrs. Elizabeth Pitts, widow, of this parish, gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor of the in-parish yearly for ever	l.	s.	d.
		20	0	0
1690,	Mr. Edward Tilly, of this city, gave 100l. to four parishes, whereof this in-parish hath a quarter part, the profit to be given to the poor in bread weekly for ever.			
1692,	Mr. Henry Merritt, some time sheriff of this city, gave 50l. the profit thereof weekly in bread to the poor of the out-parish for ever	50	0	0
	Mr. Edward Terrill gave 50l. the profit to the poor of the in-parish for ever	50	0	0
	Dr. Sherman gave 9l. 10s. the profit to the poor of this parish for ever	9	10	0
	John Brown, labourer, gave 10l. the profit to the poor of this parish for ever	10	0	0
1695,	Mr. Walter Stevens, of this parish, gave 3l. 13s. 4d. per annum, to be distributed in bread to the poor of the in-parish weekly for ever.			
1701,	Mrs. Barbara Merritt, widow, gave 30l. the profit thereof yearly to the poor of the out-parish for ever	30	0	0
	Herbert Vaughan, Esq; gave 10l. the use thereof to the poor of the in-parish for ever	10	0	0
1720,	Mrs. Christian Blackbourn, widow, gave to the minister for two sermons on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday in the afternoon yearly for ever 10s. each, to the clerk 1s. 6d. each, and to the sexton 1s. each.			
	Mr. Joseph Colebrook, of the out-parish, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor of the out-parish in bread on the 16th of October yearly for ever	10	0	0
	Mr. William Vigor, of this parish, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given to the poor of the in-parish in bread on the 2d of February yearly for ever, by the churchwardens of said parish	20	0	0
	Capt. James Smith gave 3l. 6s. 4d. yearly for ever, for preaching two sermons, one on the 4th of January and the other on the 9th of May, and for bread to the poor of the out-parish, and 12l. 10s. to the in-parish, the interest thereof to be given yearly in bread to poor housekeepers, not receiving alms, at the discretion of the churchwardens respectively.			

1720, Mr. Henry Gibbes, of this city, gave 10l. the interest thereof to the poor of this parish for ever - l. s. d.
10 0 0

1727, Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. gave 50l. the interest thereof to be paid on the 1st day of May yearly for ever to the minister for preaching a sermon, if it falls on a Sunday then it is to be preached the day following 20s. and the residue thereof to be equally divided between ten poor house-holders within the out-parish not receiving alms for ever - - - - - 50 0 0

Mrs. Alice James, widow, gave 20l. the interest thereof to be given in twelve-penny bread to the poor of this parish, not receiving alms, on Christmas-day yearly for ever - - - - - 20 0 0

1728, Mr. William Welsh, Mr. Daniel Shewring, and Mr. John Pittman, gave 20l. the profit thereof to poor house-keepers of the out-parish on the 8th of March, not receiving alms - - - - - 20 0 0

1733, Mrs. Dionis Gibbes, in memory of her brother Mr. Harrington Gibbes, merchant, of this city, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be distributed as followeth: 20s. for the minister to preach a sermon on the 28th of September in the afternoon if not on a Sunday, but if so on the day following; and the remainder to be distributed by the churchwardens in bread to the poor of the out-parish yearly for ever - - - - - 50 0 0

Edward Colston, Esq; gave 10l. per annum for twelve years after his death to the charity-school of St. Philip's 10 0 0

A list of GIFT-SERMONS to the parish of St. Philip's, Bristol.

January 1, Thomas Clement's, Esq; May 1, Sir Abraham Elton's, Bart.
January 4, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith's. May 9, Mr. James Smith's.
Eight Sundays in the year, Mr. Cox's. September 28, Mrs. Dionis Gibbes's.
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday,
Mr. Christopher Blackbourne.

In St. Philip's parish is the hospital dedicated to the holy and undivided Trinity, and St. George, on the south side within Lawford's gate. It was founded by John Barstaple merchant and burges of Bristol, who had served the office of mayor three times, Isabella his wife is said to have founded an hospital

hospital on the north side of the gate. This John Barstaple provided for six poor men and six poor women, and a priest to officiate to them, in the hospital, with chambers and gardens to each, he endowed the same with certain tenements to the yearly value of 30l. 10s. 4d. for ever, I cannot find any valuation of this hospital the 26th Henry 8th. But it was happily preserved at the reformation, and granted by Queen Elizabeth anno regni 20th 1578, 14th Feb. to Peter Gray, Esq; of Segensfee, Bedfordshire, at 20s. per annum, and then purchased for 100 marks by the corporation to apply it to charitable uses, who have so carefully improved the revenues, that there are now ten poor men, and twelve poor women, maintained at 3s. per week each; the yearly income of the said estate was increased in 1749, to 298l. 18s. 4d. This charity has been further augmented by the benevolence of Mr. John Matthews a burghess of Bristol, with 18l. per annum, given in the year 1521, so that the whole amounts to 316l. 18s. 4d. per annum, and the vicar of St. Philip's, in which parish this hospital is, hath 8l. per annum, to read prayers to them every Thursday and Saturday in the week for ever, and for one sermon and sacrament on Holy Thursday. The clerk of the parish has for his trouble 40s. per annum.

As the yearly income is increased, the corporation did in the year 1739 make an additional building to that hospital on the north side of the gate of the same foundation, placing therein twenty-four women only, twelve of which have 3s. per week as being upon the old foundation, and in the new additional building are placed twelve men, six of which have 2s. per week and the other six at present have only house rent free. Bishop Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, p. 483. says, that this hospital was founded anno 4 Henry 5th. 1416, and says there was certainly some foundation before that of John Barstaple's time, though probably not fully settled. * But he was misinformed, for Isabel his wife, who is said to be a joint founder with him, died in the year 1400, and his death followed in October 1411, which is several years before the time mentioned by the Bishop to be founded, and their grave stones with each inscription on them are now to be seen in the year 1788.

The following inscriptions are under his and his wife's figures, being brass let into freestone with his cypher and a coat of arms under his wife; they lie on the right and left side of the high altar. She died the 1st year of King Henry 4th. and her husband the 13th of the said king. Under his, "Hic jacet

* Vide the Licence of King Henry 5th. to John Barstaple in the city chamber.

Pat. 3. Hen. 4. p. 1. m. 16. Par. 9. Hen. 4. p. 1. m. 4. pro gilda ibidem facienda.

Pat. 13. Hen. 4. p. 4. p. 1. m. 3. pro ten. in Rugeway.

Pat. 4. Hen. 5. p. 1. m. 2. vol. iii.

jacet Johannes Barstaple, burgenfis villæ Bristol, fundator istius loci, qui obiit 15 kalen Octob. litera Dominicalis D. A. D. MCCCCXI. cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen." Under her's, " Hic jacet Isabella, quond. uxor Johannis Barstaple, quæ obiit A. D. MCCCC. cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen."

The religious gilds were founded chiefly for devotion and alms deeds, the secular for trade and alms deeds. Thus King Henry 5th. by patent letter of his great seal gave licence to found this religious gild or fraternity to the honour of the Holy Trinity and St. George in the suburb of Bristol, and made it perpetual thus: — " Rex omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod carissimus pater noster Dominus H. nuper Rex Angliæ per literas suas patentes (he doth not say of what date) de gratia sua speciali concefferit et licentiam dederit, pro se et hæredibus suis quantum in ipso fuit, Johanni Barstaple, to found an hospital or almery and a gild, in suburbio Bristollia — et quod utraq; domus hospitalitatis five elemosinariæ ac fraternitatis five gildæ prædictarum, per se perpetua et incorporata existeret imperpetuum, et quod unus capellanorum prædictorum esset custos domus hospitalitatis five elemosinariæ prædictæ (æ) ac custos domus hospitalitatis five elemosinariæ Sanctæ Trinitatis juxta Laffordesgate in suburbio Bristollia nuncuparetur, et alter eorum capellanorum esset magister five custos fraternitatis five gildæ prædictæ, et magister five custos fraternitatis five gildæ Sanctæ Trinitatis juxta Laffordesgate in suburbio Bristollia nuncuparetur imperpetuum, et quod uterq; custodum prædictorum per se esset habilis ad perquirend (um) et recipien (dum) terras tenementa et alias possessiones quecumq; habenda sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum ita quod neuter illorum de possessionibus alterius in aliquo nullatenus se intromitteret, et quod uterq; custodum prædictorum nomine suo præ notato, et successores sui, in quibuscumq; curiis nostris et alibi placitare et implacitari posset, ac commune sigillum haberet imperpetuum, quodq; uterq; custodum prædictorum ac fratres et sorores" — might make ordinances and constitutions for the government of their house, as by the said letter patent might appear. The present king, viz. Henry 5th. granteth leave to transfer the said almery and gild, and to found a gild or fraternity in honour of the Holy Trinity and St. George. — " Et quod fraternitas five gilda prædicta per se perpetua et incorporata existat in perpetuum, et quod ipsi annuatim quendam magistrum de seipsis eligere possint, who magister gildæ five fraternitatis Sanctæ Trinitatis et Sancti Georgii Bristolli (æ) nuncupetur imperpetuum. Et quod prædictus magister gildæ five fraternitatis prædictæ simulcum gilda five fraternitate prædicta sint personæ habiles et capaces ad perquirend (um) et recipiend (um) terras tenementa et alias possessiones quæcumq; habend (a) et tenend (a)

sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum, and that nomine prænotato they may plead and be impleaded. In cujus, &c. teste rege apud Westmonasterium 15 die Februarii." Pat. 4. Hen. 5. m. 1.

In the out-parish of St. Philip and Jacob, without Lawford's-gate, upon the north side of the road to Bath, in the hundred of King's Barton, at the east end of the city, in the county of Gloucester, was an hospital for leproous persons, dedicated to St. Laurence, before the 8th Henry 3d.* The patronage of the mastership was in the crown, but was granted 3d Henry 5th. to Humphrey Duke of Gloucester. Sir Robert Atkyns seems to confound this last account, for he asserts that the hundred and manor of Barton with the advowsons of the hospital of St. Laurence did belong to Edward Duke of York, grandson to King Edward 3d. p. 421. Bishop Tanner says in his Notitia, p. 481. that it seemed afterward that this hospital did belong to the college of Westbury. Sir Robert Atkyns, p. 802. confirms the same, and that King Edward 3d. granted the hospital of St. Laurence near Bristol † towards their maintenance, and that this and all other estates belonging to that college, at the dissolution of religious foundations, were granted to Sir Ralph Sadleir, the 35th Henry 8th. (Vide p. 850.) The original grant from Henry 8th. to Sir Ralph is in the possession of Sir John Hugh Smyth, of Long Ashton, Bart.

Vide in Mon. Angl. tom. xi. p. 438. cartam regis Henrici 3. (anno regni 32,) de quadam felda concessa isti hospitali.

Pat. 8. Hen. 3. m. 10. quod leprosi de S. Laurentio sit quieti de hundredis, &c.

Pat. 32. Hen. 3. m. 3. Pat. 14. Edw. 2. p. 2. m. 3. de custodi concess. per regem. Pat. 3. Hen. 5. p. 1. m. 8.

By the original grant, dated 24th March, 25th Henry 8th. among other things belonging to the late dissolved collegiate church of Westbury, as houses and messuages in Bristol and large possessions in Henbury, Aust, Penpark, &c. was granted the site of the hospital of St. Laurence near Bristol, and all manors, lands, tenements, to the late hospital belonging, situate, lying, or being in Netherwyk, Overwyk, and Hennewyk, paying the king for the site of the said hospital 1l. 4s. 10d. for the lands in Netherwyk, &c. 4s. 8½d. for Westbury college 19s. 10d. and for the manor of Clifton 1l. per annum.

By

* King John, in the year 1208, and also King Edward 2d. the 10th of his reign, confirmed divers lands to the master and brethren of this hospital of lepers of St. Laurence.

† This confirmation was of the site of the hospital of St. Laurence near Bristol, with all its lands and tenements in Redwick, which lately belonged to the college of Westbury, was also granted the 35th of Henry 8th. 1542, to Sir Ralph Sadleir, Knight. Vide Sir Robert Atkyns, p. 475.

By a survey of the manor of St. Laurence, taken in April 1629 by H. Lely penes me, then part of the possessions of Sir Ralph Sadleir, of Stondon, in the county of Hertford, Esq; it appears that the manor-house, &c. was then in possession of Robert Hooke, of Bristol, Esq; and its site, together with the chapel-house, &c. abutted south on London highway and Chapel-lane on the East, St. Laurence leeze on the north and west parts; and that the sum total of acres of the demesnes of this manor was 205 acres 1 rood; sum total of the yearly value was 96l. 13s. 4d. and the sum total of the then yearly rent being out on lives was 16l. 8s.

This was but a small part of the possessions belonging to the college of Westbury, which was granted at the dissolution, 36th Henry 8th. to Sir Ralph Sadleir. They had lands in Henbury, &c. which then yielded from the lessees yearly, as from valuation and survey then taken (according to the original rental penes me) appears as under:

At Henbury, Compton, Redwyck, Northwyke, Westbury, Cote,	l.	s.	d.
Laurence-Weston, Shirehampton, Charleton, tythes of West-			
bury, Rydeland, Cote, and Stocke	116	13	1
Besides woods, Gooddown-grove full of oaks 9 acres, Hyg-			
wood 50 acres, Goddy-grove 29 acres, Comb-wood under			
Blaze-hill 18 acres, Ash-grove 17 acres.			
From the demesne lands of the bishop of Worcester	26	12	6
Other estates granted out at the court then held	108	0	0
The manor of Clyfton, lease-rents	10	0	0
The manor of St. Laurence, without Lawford's-gate, and land in			
Syfton belonging thereto	9	5	8
Tenements and lands in the city of Bryftowe	23	9	8
Besides heriots, &c.			

Total £ 294 0 11

St. Philip's out-parish being large and populous, in the parliament held 1751 an act was passed for dividing the parish of St. Philip and Jacob, and for erecting a church in the new intended parish; the preamble to which recites, "that the church was not large enough to contain the inhabitants." In order to promote that good intention, Thomas Chester, Esq; lord of the manor, gave a piece of ground in Kingwood, the site of the church dedicated to St. George, churchyard, parsonage-house, and a field near it. Dr. Butler, Bishop of Bristol, gave 400l. towards the maintenance of the new vicar, besides which he obtained 400l. more from the Governors of Queen

Ann's Bounty. The corporation of Bristol gave towards building the church 250*l.* provided they should have the presentation of the living, which they now enjoy ; the Merchants Society gave 150*l.* Mr. Onesi. Tyndal 100*l.*

The act was after some delays carried into execution, and on Tuesday March 3, 1752, David Peloquin, Esq; mayor, attended by the aldermen, and the other commissioners appointed for building the new church, went in their coaches in procession to the spot marked out for the purpose, and laid the first stone of the structure, putting under it several pieces of the coin of George 2*d.* the upper part of it had the following inscription :

Templum hoc
 Dei Opt. Max. Gloriæ
 Et Hominum indies peccantium Saluti
 Sacrum
 Erigi voluit pietas publica ;
 Abfit Tamen,
 Quod inter ignota nomina
 Reverendi admodum in Christo patris
 Josephi Butler,
 Nuper Bristolliensis Episcopi
 Lateat Nomen.
 D. D. D. 400*l.*
 Jam tum ad Dunelmenfes migraturus.

On the lower part of the stone was this :

Regnante Georgio secundo
 Justo, Clementi, Forti,
 Angularem hunc Lapidem
 5 Non. Mart. 1752.
 Posuit

David Peloquin, Civitatis Bristoll. Prætor.

Thus at the expence of 2853*l.* 17*s.* 7½*d.* was the church and vicarage-house compleated, and a place of worship erected for the resort of the numerous inhabitants of Kingswood, which from being a wild forest for deer is now become a well-inhabited place, with several thousand industrious and civilized people, living happily in their neat cottages. This chace of Kingswood was a demesne of the crown belonging to Bristol castle, but was in process of time divided, by a mutual consent and combination among the several lords, who had estates confining upon it, and not by any grant from the crown, as was made appear by survey and inquisition taken May 26, 1652, by Endimion Porter

Porter and others in the Exchequer, when it was proved the total improved value of the whole chace was per annum 1241l. os. 4d. Total of acres 3432 and 2 roods. Total of gross value for cottages, timber, coal-mines, &c. 2082l. 10s. For deer about 30, formerly 1500 or 2000, 30l. But the *Nullum Tempus* bill that has since been passed has now fixed the right in the present lords, however dubious their title was before.

One Mr. Dyer of Bristol was the reputed ranger of Kingswood chace, and a duty called chiminage was usually paid at Lawford's-gate for ever pack-saddle passing through the said chace during the fairs of St. James and St. Paul.

Leland, vol. vi. p. 67. has, "*Antiquæ limites forestæ de Kingeswode.*" — "The foreste of Kingeswode cummythe onte Barres Courte, Maystre Newton's howse," vol. vii. p. 12.

C H A P. XXII.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of TEMPLE, otherwise HOLY CROSS.

IT derives its name from the religious society of Knight Templars, its founders, an order instituted about the year 1118, wearing an habit white with a red cross upon the left shoulder; their superior was called Master of the Temple. In *Monast.* vol. ii. p. 530. is an account of the estates granted to them, among which are "*apud Bristol ex dono Comitum Roberti, &c.* lands at Bristol of the gift of Earl Robert, part of which was built on by the brethren themselves, part by other men, &c." This points out clearly the time when this church and parish were founded, in the reign of King Stephen, when Robert Earl of Gloucester flourished. By its proximity to Bristol, being separated from it only by the river Avon, it soon increased in inhabitants, especially after the erection of the bridge: a great market was held at Stallage-cross, and a free and frequent intercourse betwixt those on both sides of the river soon took place. The church seems to have been built at several times.

The following curious account of this church transcribed from an original old vellum manuscript, said to be written about the year 1460 by Rowlie, is the most ancient:

"Tys

" Tys uncouth whanne thys chyrche was fyrst ybuilden, natheles I reede yn the bochorde of the revestrie, that in 1271 six women in Easter wake dyd doe penaunce for ewbrice, goeynge from St. Paulle's crosse to the new chyrche of Templarres : certis is the evente knowen, howgates ytt became crouched. Gremondei, a Lumbard, dyd make grete boaste that hee woulde ybulden a chyrche moe freme thanne anie yn Brystowe. The Knyghtes Templarres eftsoons dyd hem emploie, Gnoffenglie despyseinge the argues of Johannes a Brixter, a Brystoe manne borne, who the same woulde have ybuylden on the hylle cleped Celnile-hylle, and fythence Pyll-hylle, alleageyng therefore that the river han formerlie ranne thorowe St. Pauls strete, and a lane aneare whylome was cleped Rhistreete, in Saxonne tongue the strete of the ryver : bie reason wherofe the bottome m'ote be moddie, and ne able to beare a chyrche. Natheles the halle worke was begonne in the verie lane of Rhistrete ; but tyme eftsoons shewed the trouthe, for the towre ne hie nor hevie sonke awaie to the southe, tareyng a large gappe fromme the chyrche's boddie : a maconne was kyllen and three of more aneute sleyn. To the observyng eyne the whole order of the chyrch is wronge, and seemethe as tho' shaken bie an erthequake. The Knyghtes Templarres let itte lie unconsecrate untill fyxtene yeeres, whanne for Gremondie agayne despyfingc John a Brixter, ytte was crenelled atoppe goyng ne hier than beefore, glayzeinge the wyndowes and fyingeinge thereynne. Botte the pryncypalle dyeyng, another dyd hym succeed, whoe dyd sende for Johnne a Bryxter and employed hym. He than began to staie the same bie pyles and rayfed the same as hie agayne ynn the towre makeyng ytte stronge and lastable, leaveyng the fyrste battlementes to shew howe farre hee dyd rayfed ytte. Hee dyed, and eyn 1296 Thomæ Ruggilie added the three smalle chapelles for dailie chauntries, one of whych was graunted to the weavers bie Kynge Edward of that name the fyrste."

The leaning position and crookedness of Temple tower is generally noted, and Brunius or Braun in his *Theatrum Urbium*, (Coln: 1576) mentions it in the following terms — " *Præcellam habet & elegantem &c.*" i. e. " The church of Holy Cross has a very high and elegant tower which I may venture to compare in thickness and heighth with that of St. Martin's the Less at Cologn. When the bells that are in it sound, it is so moved this and that way that at length by the too great and frequent shaking, it has separated from the body of the church ; and has made a chink from the very top of the roof to the foundation, gaping so wide as to admit four fingers bredth. Abraham Ortelius wrote me word, that himself put a stone of the size of a goose egg into

into this chink, which he saw himself give down wards as the place was narrow or wide, and at length by the frequent colision was squeezed to pieces; and that when he put his back against the tower, he was afraid he should be oppressed by its fall; that the mayor and others of authority there told him, the whole fabrick of this church formerly shook and was like to fall before this chink was made there, and with such force, that the lamps were put out and the oil wasted: of this there were many living witnesses in that parish. But the church now, because it is not affected by the sound of the bells, stands without motion."

It appears by the will of Bernard Obelly, 1390, and of Reginald Taylor Tucker, dated 1397, that Temple Tower was building anew to which he gives 5*l.* and a missal to the altar of the Holy Trinity, near which was the image of St. John the Baptist. But William Botoner, p. 228 says "The height of the square tower was built anew by the parishioners in the year 1460, for the ringing of large bells," and p. 203, that "the new belfry tower is five yards square on every side," (*ex omni parte*) or in the whole.

What this new building in 1460 was, is uncertain; but the above will of Reginald Taylor seems to point out the certain time, when the tower was new built; that the first work was ill executed and wanted to be repaired, appears not improbable, considering how much it sunk at the foundation.

In 1772, it was examined and found by measurement to lean at the South West corner three feet nine inches from the perpendicular.

It appeared from opening the ground in the year 1774, to put in new gate posts at the entrance of the church, that thick foundation walls extended from the tower into the street fifty or sixty feet, laid there doubtless for an additional support to that inclining side of the tower; upon forcing through them the water gushed out and prevented their being further traced or the piles being discovered that probably support them. This however shews the great care that had been taken at times to support the tower, built as it is on such marshy and soft ground.

William of Worcester in 1480 says, "The most beautiful church of the Temple is founded in honour of the Holy Cross in the manor and street called Temple-street, and has great liberties and franchises." p. 261, "it contains in length 53 yards, being twice measured by me." p. 239, "the breadth of the church-yard is 570 steps in the whole."—The church is from east to west 156 feet long, the chancel is 74 feet, and the body of the church 82; it is 50 feet high, the chancel is 19 feet wide, and the north and south ailes 59 feet wide. It was ceiled and beautified in 1701 at the expence of 300*l.* out of the parish stock,

stock, and 100l. was given by Mr. Colston, who also gave 10l. more towards the handsome portal. It was now pewed, and a stately organ built over the west door; and now the long ailes, large windows, lofty ceiling, slender pillars, and its spacious area strike you with awful surprise at first entering this sacred building. There is a beautiful altar of curious workmanship, and on each side a painting of Moses and Aaron well executed; and the floor is neatly paved with diamond-cut stones. On entering the west door in the middle aile in the floor is laid in white marble, a cross about 5 feet long, to preserve the remembrance of the two crosses of old inlaid with freestone among bricks, with which the church was before paved. In 1724 a new marble font was erected here.

The ancient arms of the church was the same as those of the Knight Templars, and of the Temple in London, the Holy Lamb and cross—the lion and the cross at the entrance seems to be a mistake of the artist.

It was made a vicarage in 1342 by Ralph Bishop of Bath and Wells, the endowment of which is still extant in the registers of Wells, a copy of it (penes me) I compared with the original there the 15th of April 1772, by which it appears that the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, to whom the lands of the Knight Templars had been given, were to receive of the vicar 100 shillings out of the fruits and proceeds of the said church, and the vicar was to receive the whole residue of all oblations, fruits and proceeds of the said church besides; together with a house for his habitation: and the prior and brethren were to repair the chancel alway; and the vicars were to bear all other charges &c. and the prior &c. were to present to the vicarage upon every vacancy.

A chauntry was founded here by John Fraunces, 5th of Edw. the 3d. and another by William Ponam.—This living is rated at the clear yearly value of 33l. 2s. 8d. the tenths now discharged were 6s. 5d. It is rated in the King's books at 3l. 4s. per ann.

The corporation purchased the patronage of this church with part of the lands, once the property of these religious, as appears by the following deed:

“Memorandum. That we the meare the burgeses and communaltie of the citey or towne of Brystowe in the countie of Brystowe do desyre to bye and perchase of the Kyng's Hyghnesse the manor of Temple Fee and all the howses, byldinges, land, tenths, mede, pasture, rent, fervyce, libertys, franchyses, and all other profytts and commodities to the same manor belongyng, wyth the appertynances sett lying and beyng withyn Brystowe aforesaid, and withyn the libertyes of the same, and in Portbury and West Welson, and also a certain
vacant

vacant peece of ground lying upon the Burge of Brystowe: and alsoe all such howses, buyldinges, edyfices, londys, mede, pasture, rents, profetts, &c. the whych were late, and belonged to Sir John Dudley Knight, of the honorable order of the garter, Vyfcount Lysley, which sayd manor and all other londe, tenths, hereditaments mentioned and comprized in the particulars to these presents annexed, the seyd maer, burgeses and communaltie do affirme and declare to the Kynges Hyghness to be of the cleer yeerly value to his Hyghness in yeerly rents and fermes of 71l. 16s. 2d. over and above all yeerly outcharges and reptyses, and not above. In wytness whereof Sir Edward Beynton Knight, and Gyles Dodyngton, deputes and attorneys to the seyd maer and burgeses and communaltie, sufficiently authorised, deputed and constituted by the wryting of the said maer &c. of Brystow under their common seale, to these present have set theyr several seales and subscribed theyr names. Yoven the last daie of June the 36 yere of the reygne of the seyd sovereygne Lorde Kynge Henry the Eigth.

EDWARD BEYNTON.

GYLES DODYNGTON.

To this is annexed a schedule entitled,

Pacell. Terr: et possessionum nuper prioratus,

Sive hospitalis sancti Johannis Jerusalem in Angliâ, among which are the yearly quit rents of many houses in Temple-street, rents of lands by copy of court roll in West Weston, Portbury and in Bristol: Temple Mead was let by indenture under the seal of the said late priory to John Campton on paying yearly 3l. 6s. 8d. the clear rent of all these lands was then 14l. 7s. 10d. and the rental of all the other lands of Temple manor, called Lord Lysle's, which was very large, and consisted not only of tenements in Temple-street, but in every part of the city, and in Barton Regis hundred, amounted to

the clear annual rent of 57l. 8s. 3d.	-	-	-	57	8	3
				14	7	11
				71	16	2

A sum, which since the purchase made by the corporation of Bristol, amounts now to a clear yearly ground rent, besides renewals of lives, as follows:

Fee farm rents only of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem for	l.	s.	d.
one year, are	22	14	1½
Fee farm rents and rack rents of Lord Lisle's lands, are, for one year	116	6	4
	139	0	5½
	71	16	2

Increase in ground rents alone since the 36th year of Hen. 8th. £ 67 4 3½

W w w

Temple

Temple meads, part of the lands belonging to the house of the Knight Templars, were therefore exempt from tythes, and are so to this day, the corporation holding those lands in the same manner as the religious did.

The site of the house of Knight Templars, and afterwards of the prior and brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, is at present not very easily to be traced—I suppose it was near to the church of their erection, and as I find Beer-lane and Temple-Comb mentioned in deeds to be in *suburbio*; the present site of Dr. White's hospital and the houses adjoining seem to be the spot, where old arches still appear to point it out, though some have placed it at Temple-Gate, where the Augustine friars afterwards had their house and church, of which below.

The vicar chiefly depends on the free gift and contributions of his parishioners, amounting in the whole to about 150l. per annum, surplice fees included, besides two little dwellings. The present incumbent is the Rev. Mr. Easterbrook.

VICARS of Temple.

PATRONS.	
Prior of St. John of Jerusalem.	1614 Richard Knight.
1342 John Jurdan.	1639 Abel Lovering.
William de Hetherington.	1642 Jacob Brent.
1370 Walter Berforde.	1660 John Chetwin.
1447 William Bonavy.	1672 Arthur Bedford.
1452 John Vesse.	1700 William Cary.
1473 Nicholas Whithel.	1723 Samuel Curtis.
1475 John Mason, also rector of	1738 Henry Becher.
Wraxal.	1743 Thomas Jones.
1476 John Thomas.	1756 John Price.
1512 Robert Festham.	1767 Alexander Stopford Catcott,
Corporation.	author of an ingenious treatise on the Deluge.
1563 Edward Togood.	1779 Joseph Easterbrook.
1575 Richard Barwick.	
1600 Richard Martin.	

The following are the principal Monuments and Inscriptions in this church.

In the chancel: "Samuel Curtis vicar died 14 Jan. 1738, aged 44."

A monument with inscription to, "John Stone, thrice mayor, who had 4 wives; he died 24 June 1575; with his effigy and his 4 wives," with the brewers arms.

"To Jacob Brent vicar, who died 22 Oct. 1666, aged 60; with some acrostic verses."

"To

"To John Thomas vicar, who died 1 Jan. 1476."

"To John Chetwin vicar, who died 4 Dec. 1672, aged 50."

"To Walter Berforde vic."

In the north wall a handsome monument with a long Latin inscription :
 "To George Knight Esq; maior, who died 13 Dec. 1659, aged 89.—Also Sir John Knight his son, alderman, who died 16 Dec. 1683, aged 71.—Also his son John, who died 29 May 1684, aged 38.—Also Thomas Knight Esq; son of Sir John, who died 26 April 1699.—Also Ann the wife of George Knight Esq; who died 19 Aug. 1645.—Martha the widow of Sir John Knight, who died 20 Jan. 1696.—Also Mary wife of John Knight Esq; who died 17 Oct. 1673.—And Ann Knight daughter of Thomas Knight, who died 22 Sept. 1725.—Arms paly of 6 arg. & G. quartered, with parted per bend ermine and fable counterchanged, a lion rampant or.

In the south wall of the chancel a monument, "To Alderman Crabb, who died 14 Oct. 1702, aged 87."

On a black stone an inscription : "To John Hawkins Esq; eldest son of Sir John Hawkins Knight, alderman, he died 27 March 1738, aged 57.—Also Sir John Hawkins, who died 6 July 1723, aged 74."—Arms f. arg. a St. Andrew's cross fable, charged with 5 fleurs de lis or.

Under a brass figure an inscription : "To Richard Loyd, with six sons and seven daughters, he died 13 May 1621."—Arms f. ermine, a St. Andrew's cross fable.

At the entrance into the chancel lie the family of Hinde, with inscriptions :
 "To John Hinde Esq; mayor, who died 28 April 1699, aged 68.—Elizabeth daughter of Richard Brickdale, and grand daughter of John Hinde Esq; she died 1 Aug. 1723."

John Brickdale Esq; one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Somerset, and father of Matthew Brickdale Esq; present Member of Parliament for Bristol (1788) was buried at Temple, being their family burying place. He died 2 November 1765.

In the Weavers Chapel is the brass figure of a man in the posture of devotion, with the following lines :

Es testis, Christe, quod non jacet hic lapis iste,
 Corpus ut ornetur, sed spiritus ut memoretur :
 Huc tu quo transis, magnus, medius, puer, an sis,
 Pro me funde preces, dabitur mihi sic Veniæ spes.

The date was 1396.

Hic jacet Dus Richardus Goldekeme quondam Capellanus s^{te} Catherinæ, obiit die mensis Maii A. D. 1443, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus amen.—There is a cross on the stone with J. H. S.

At the east end of this chapel was the Holy Lamb in painted glass, also quarterly G. a lion rampant or. with checky or. and az.—The Gorges arms.—And in the north window were formerly those of Hungerford, Punchardon, Bradeston, Ferrers, Morgan, Arthur, Fitzwarren alias Blunt, Brook, England, Valance, and of Eleanor of Castile Queen of Edward 1st. all in painted glass, now stolen away.

There is a curious ancient brass sconce with twelve branches, on the top the Virgin and child in her arms in full proportion, and under them St. Michael killing the dragon, of very neat workmanship, probably used in the time of the Knight Templars.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of Temple Parish.

1634, Mr. George White, merchant, gave by will to the churchwardens and parishioners of Temple in Bristol for the time being 25l. in money, to be paid into the hands of the overseers of the poor, to be by them and the churchwardens so laid out and settled that by the profit thereof arising a sermon may be yearly preached in Temple Cross in Bristol upon St. Georg's-day (being the 23d of April) for ever.—The preacher to be nominated by the mayor and aldermen of the city of Bristol.

1639, Mr. George Harrington, alderman, hath given 40s. yearly to four housekeepers by 10s. a quarter for ever.

Mr. William Pitt hath given the use of 25l. to the poor for ever.

1594, Robert Kitchen, alderman, gave 10s. for a sermon and 12d. weekly in bread, and 40s. yearly to four housekeepers by 10s. quarterly.

1622, Thomas White, D. D. for two sermons yearly, and founder of an almshouse for ten persons.

Mr. Edward Batten and Mary his wife gave 40l. the benefit thereof to be distributed in bread weekly to the poor of this parish for ever.

Mary Stile gave 10l. the benefit thereof to be distributed in bread weekly to the poor of this parish for ever.

Mr. Richard Ditty gave 10l. the benefit thereof to be distributed in bread weekly to the poor of this parish for ever.

1656, John Barker, alderman, gave one annuity to the churchwardens of Temple parish of 4l. 6s. 8d. per annum for ever out of a house in Temple-street, to have thirteen sermons preached in the year, viz. one

one every Sunday in the month in the parish church of Temple, but if in case it is omitted for the space of three months then the annuity to cease.

1659, George Knight, Esq; late mayor and alderman of this city, gave 8d. weekly in bread to the poor, and 12s. 6d. for a sermon yearly for ever.

1661, Mr. Francis Gleed, some time sheriff of this city, gave 10s. a quarter to a poor housekeeper for ever.

1668, Arthur Farmer, Esq; alderman, gave 40l. the profit thereof to be distributed upon All Saints-day to six poor families of this parish for ever.

Mr. Abraham Birkin gave 40s. per annum for ever to four house-holders, receiving no alms, quarterly for ever.

Mrs. Mary Beekham gave a house in Frog-lane, the profit thereof in bread to the poor.

Mrs. Mary Gray gave 50l. the profit thereof, viz. 6s. 8d. for a sermon on the Sunday after St. Andrew's-day, and the rest for putting poor fatherless children to school.

1683, Mr. Thomas Goldsmith gave 10l. per annum for ever; 4l. per annum in bread to the poor of this parish, 40s. a year to the cloth workers almshouse, and 40s. a year to the poor of the weavers almshouse, each to have it given quarterly; and 40s. a year to be given to Martha Hyatt for her life, and after to six poor widows of the said parish on St. Thomas's-day for ever.

1683, Sir John Knight the elder, alderman of this city, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given in bread weekly for ever, besides 22l. given to the poor immediately.

1685, Mr. Jeremiah Holway, senr. merchant, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be given weekly in bread to the poor of this parish for ever.

1686, Mr. Robert Amberfon, merchant, gave 25l. the profit thereof to be given in bread to the poor of this parish weekly for ever.

Mr. Samuel Hale, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof in bread to the poor of this parish for ever. And the profit of 230l. to seven parishes to place a boy or girl apprentice, whereof this parish hath a proportion.

1688, Mr. John Lawford, alderman, gave 52s. in bread yearly for ever.

1689, Mr. William Middlemore, dyer, gave 10l. yearly for five years to the poor of this parish, beginning March 25

1690,

1690, Mrs. Alice West gave three houses, the profit thereof to the poor of this parish for ever.

Mrs. Margaret Abbey, widow, gave 30l. to the poor of this parish, which was distributed according to her will.

1699, Mrs. Ann Longman, widow, gave 195l. to the poor of this city, of which this parish hath a part.

1702, Mr. John Hudson, of this parish, clothier, gave 13s. 4d. to the minister, 4s. to the clerk, and 2s. 8d. to the sexton, for a sermon on St. John's-day for ever; and 20s. for four widows or housekeepers of this parish, not receiving alms.

1706, Sarah Smith, widow, daughter of Mr. Thomas Smith, gave 6s. 8d. apiece to three poor widows of this parish on St. Thomas's-day for ever.

1701, Edward Colston, Esq; gave 100l. towards the ceiling and beautifying of this church, and 60l. more for a portal and altar-piece.

1703, Mrs. Sarah Colston, widow, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be yearly and equally given to six poor housekeepers of this parish, not receiving alms, at Christmas for ever.

1709, Mr. George Hudson, the only son of Mr. John Hudson, gave 20l. to 80 families of Temple parish, which was distributed as by will. the interest of 50l. to six housekeepers not receiving alms, viz. 8s. 4d. to each, to be distributed by the churchwardens of the said parish on Ash Wednesday, and 10s. for a sermon on the same day for ever.

1712, Mr. Abraham Spurring gave 30l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish in bread weekly for ever.

1713, Mr. John Gray, cloth-worker, born in this parish, gave 40s. a year for ever, viz. 10s. for a sermon to the minister, 2s. 6d. to the clerk, 1s. 6d. to the sexton, and 26s. paid for the relief of four sick families on the 17th day of November, at the discretion of the churchwardens.

The same Mr. Gray gave the residuary part of his estate, which amounted to 110l. to be distributed by his executors to such poor persons as they think fit. Ordered, that it shall be applied towards the maintenance of the charity-school girls of this parish for ever.

1716, Mrs. Jane Shute, daughter of Sir John Knight, of this parish, deceased, gave 10l. to the poor of this parish, the interest thereof to be given in bread on Christmas-day yearly for ever.

1721, Mr. John Brittain gave 20l. the interest thereof to the poor in bread on Christmas-day for ever.

1722, Capt. Matthew Nicholas gave 20l. the interest thereof to be paid yearly to four poor sailors widows, and for want of such to four poor house-holders of this parish for ever, to be distributed on the 9th of November, being his birth-day.

1724, May 11, Mr. John Newman, plumber, gave 26l. the profit in bread, made into two-penny loaves, to the poor of this parish on the Lord's-day for ever.

Mrs. Grace Brown, gave 15l. the interest to five poor widows, not receiving alms, on the 5th day of March for ever.

1729, Mr. Isaac Hollier, of Wolverhampton, left 10l. by will, the interest thereof to the poor of this parish in bread yearly for ever.

1731, Mrs. Elizabeth Nicholas, widow, gave 30l. the interest thereof to be distributed to six poor sailors widows, or (if none) to six other house-keepers, not receiving alms, yearly, on the 1st day of February, being the day of her birth.

1725, Mrs. Ann Knight, daughter of Thomas Knight, Esq; third son of Sir John Knight, late of this parish, gave 100l. the interest thereof to be given in bread, to such poor of this parish as are most in need of it: one half of it on the 9th of May, and the other half of it on the 22d of September for ever. She also gave two large silver candlesticks for the use of the church.

1740, June 24, Mr. John Jayne, mariner, of Temple parish, gave 140l. the interest thereof for the education and cloathing of the poor charity girls of the said parish for ever.

1681, Mr. Abraham Short, of Hambrough, and servant to Mr. John Hine, of this parish, sugar-baker, gave 10l. the use thereof weekly in bread to the poor for ever.

Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Jane Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to 52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a proportion.

1682, William Colston, Esq; merchant, and some time sheriff of this city, gave 50l. to this parish, the profit thereof weekly in bread to the poor for ever.

1670, Mr. Richard Vickris, alderman, gave 52s. yearly for ever in bread.

Mrs. Lucy Pester, widow, gave unto the poor of this parish 50l. the profit thereof yearly for ever.

1678,

1678, Mr. William Goldsmith gave 10l. the profit thereof to be distributed in bread, on the 20th of January, to the poor of this parish yearly for ever.

1672, Mr. Thomas Guest, of Exon, gave 10l. to the poor of this parish, the profits thereof for ever.

1676, Mr. Robert Markham, of London, gave 10l. the profit thereof to be given to the poor of this parish in bread on St. Paul's-day yearly for ever.

The following are the GIFT-SERMONS preached in this church.

Sunday after St. Paul's-day in the morning, Alderman Kitchen's.	St. Thomas's-day in the forenoon, Dr. White's.
Asc Wednesday, Mr. Geo. Hudson's.	Christmas-day in the morning, Mr. George Knight's.
April 23, Mr. George White's.	St. John's-day, Mr. John Hudson's.
Ascension-day and Tuesday in Whit-fun week, Mr. T. Warren's, senr.	Thirteen sermons in the year, on the first Sunday in the month, in the afternoon, Mr. John Barker's, alderman.
Midsummer-day, Dr. White's.	
November 17, Mr. John Gray's.	
Sunday morning after St. Andrew's-day, Mrs. Mary Gray's.	

The lands and tenements belonging to this parish produce in ground rents about 170l. per annum, besides renewals of lives.

The 26th year of Henry the 8th. a great controversy arose betwixt the Lord prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England, and the mayor and commonalty of Bristol, relating to the privilege of sanctuary in Temple-street, and of having a law day to hold court with the usual privileges, and return a brevium and execution of the same in the said street; claiming also that his tenants and inhabitants within the said street being not burgeses, might vend their merchandises therein in open shops; all which articles were denied by the mayor, and after much variance the matter was referred to Sir J. Fitz-James chief justice, and Richard Broke chief baron, who ordered that the liberty of sanctuary should be void, and that processes should be served in the said street by the city officers without disturbance of the Lord prior.—The rest of the matters in dispute were referred to another time; but Henry the 8th. settled them most effectually at the reformation, by the suppression of religious houses.

There were some peculiar privileges belonging to Temple Fee, of which — Arthur Esq; is named as lord, also mentioned by William of Worcester; which

which in time were lost : and in the year 1490 it is said, " there was no court, bayly or constable of Temple Fee for ten weeks," and afterwards that ' Temple Fee was broken."

In this parish and in Temple-street on the north side within the gate was a friery of brothers Eremites of St. Augustin.—Of this house Bishop Tanner in his *Notitia Monastica*, in folio, p. 483, says, " The Augustine friers house was hard by the Temple-gate, within it on the north west." It was founded by Sir Simon and Sir William Montacute, about the beginning of the reign of King Edward the 2d. and was granted the 35th of Henry the 8th. 1543, to Maurice Dennis.

Vide in Mr. Willis's history of abbies, vol. 2. p. 325, the dimensions of the church and chapter house.

Pat. 6 Edw. 2. p. 2. m. 2. vel. 3. Pat. 11 Edw 2. p. 1. m. 10. *ibid.* p. 2. m. 22. de cccc. ped in longit. et cc. ped in latit. concess. Will. de Montecuto pro manso elargando: pat. 17 Ed. 2. p. 2. m. 6.

William of Worcester in 1480 gives the dimensions of the Bristol frieries; and of this, " The length of the body of the Augustynian brethren's church contains 30 yards or 54 paces, the breadth thereof contains 9 yards or 16 paces; the length of the chapter-house 24 yards, the breadth thereof 8 yards; the length of the cloisters contains 30 yards, the breadth thereof 3 yards; the breadth of the belfry 5 yards." He adds, " In 1320, the day before the ides of July, the place of the brother Eremites of the order of St. Augustin was consecrated; there is in the church one small nave and only one aisle."

In the year 1366 Sir John de Gourney Lord of Knowle granted the ground for an aqueduct from Pile-hill to Temple-gate near this house, for the use of the friers here, from a fountain called Raveneswelle at a place called Hales.

The 11th of Edward 3d. licence was granted to William de Montacute for a certain piece of land in the suburbs of Bristol, containing 200 feet in length and 40 in breadth, contiguous to the mansion of the beloved the prior and brethren of the order of St. Austin to enlarge their mansion, saving to the lords of the fee all due services, by letters patent dated at Wyndesore. This was a grant of the land in the Great Garden.

Thomas Lyons, Esq; 5th Henry 4th. granted the friers leave to bring their aqueduct direct through his land called Brandiron-close otherwise Long Croft with power to dig the ground, &c.

These original deeds are in Temple vestry.

Temple conduit was built 1561, and 1587 J. Griffen gave two tenements to keep it in repair. This water course is kept in very good order, and the

fountain head is yearly visited by the parish officers, and they have expended great sums to preserve it at different times and to prevent the springs from being stopped. You enter the cavern by a door at the side of the hill, on the very bank of the Avon on the left hand of the Bath road at Totterdown, and passing through a narrow cut in the solid rock for 125 yards exactly in length, you come to the reservoir or large trough of freestone, into which three or four springs rising with force through crevices in the bottom of the rock are continually flowing in bubbling streams, from hence the water is conveyed in large leaden pipes laid at the bottom of the channel cut in the rock, which pipes you walk upon in going to the cistern, the roof above in the rock being from 10 to 20 feet high in some places; the water is conveyed from the pipe head through the fields next it quite to Temple-gate, where is a cistern arched over for public use: a feather conveyed it to the religious house adjoining, now belonging to Mr. Warren. From the gate it is now led through Temple-street to the Neptune, and to a large cistern the south side of the church and from thence with a small feather to the vicarage-house, which serves the street with great conveniency as well as the neighbourhood.

In the year of our Lord 1613 Thomas White, D. D. being a native of this parish and then living, erected an hospital in Temple-street called the Temple Hospital, for eight men and two women, and one man and one woman were afterwards added by himself. He endowed the same with lands and tenements of the yearly value of 52l. or thereabouts.

In the year 1622 he enfeoffed and confirmed to the mayor, burgessees, and commonalty of the city of Bristol, and their successors for ever in trust, four messuages and tenements, situate in Grays Inn-lane, in the county of Middlesex, near the city of London, then in the occupation of Sir Ralph Hausby, Knight, of the yearly value of 40l. to be applied to divers charities. And after his death, a rent charge of 140l. per annum was directed to be issuing out of the manor of Bradwell, in the county of Essex, and licence of Mortmain obtained in 1626 from King Charles 1st. to purchase the said annuity.—By his will also he directed that one man and one woman should be added upon the foundation of the said hospital to those ten before appointed, now twelve in number.

First settlement was	-	-	-	£ 52
Second ditto for increase of alms	-	-	-	6
Third ditto by his will	-	-	-	40
Total				£ 98 per annum.

In

In Temple-street at the corner of the way leading to Great Garden is an hospital erected, and endowed with lands and tenements in Breach Yate and Wyck and Abston to the value of 200l. or 300l. per annum. This gift is by the directions and appointment of Mr. Thomas Stephens, alderman of this city, the same being enfeoffed to divers gentlemen of the said city, for the maintenance of twelve women there with a weekly allowance to each of them of 2s. 6d. One other hospital in the Old Market was founded by the same person, and endowed with the same lands as above. His will bears date the 6th of April, 1679.

The next charitable foundation in Temple-street, but nearer Temple-gate on the same side of the way is the school of Edward Colston, Esq. It was erected and endowed by him in the year 1711, for the educating in reading, writing, and cyphering, and perfecting in the understanding of the church catechism as it is now established by law, and also for cloathing forty poor boys of this parish yearly for ever. The said Edward Colston, Esq; was a native of this parish. See p. 443. The estate with which he endowed his charity-school in Temple-street is an annual fee farm of 80l. per annum. The charge was about 3000l.

In a deed dated 1393 I find mention is made of an hospital or almshouse within Temple-gate, opposite the house of the Augustinian brethren, and in another dated 1471 it is called Domus Elemosynaria Johannis Spycer juxta portam Templi, of this there are no remains at present.

There is a school for girls, first founded by the benefaction of Mr. John Gray, and improved and supported at present by voluntary contributions.

Under the Tuckers'-hall is an ancient hospital, supposed to have been founded by the Tuckers' company, wherein six poor people have their dwellings, and 20s. per annum from the said company; but they received an additional benefaction from Mrs. Sarah Smith of 40s. per annum in the whole.

The following are the particular benefactors to the company of Cloth Workers and to the six poor of the same company under their hall:

Mr. Thomas Goldsmith gave one silver caudle cup, weight $11\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, to the use of the company, in memory of his son Thomas Goldsmith.	l.	s.	d.
John Sprint gave 6s. 8d. yearly for ever, paid them on Candlemas-day	0	6	8
Henry Davis gave 6s. 8d. yearly for ever, on Good Friday	0	6	8
Richard Floyd gave 6s. yearly for ever, on New Year's-day	0	6	0
Mr. Thomas Goldsmith gave 2l. yearly for ever, paid them quarterly	2	0	0
Mrs. Sarah Smith gave 2l. yearly for ever, paid to them quarterly	2	0	0
Paid them out of the rent of the hall at St. Paul's fair	-	0	15 0

The whole yearly income to the six poor £ 5 14 4

X x x 2

In

In Temple-street is also a large hall called the Weavers'-hall, where the masters and company meet to choose officers and accompany them before the mayor to be sworn according to their charter; where they used to audit their accounts and keep their leases and records. They have several lands given them, which they hold under feoffees for the use of the poor of the hospital under the Weavers'-hall for four poor women, who have about 1s. per week each from the Weavers' company. Also by a grant dated the 22d of December, 1673, (now in the custody of the master of the Weavers) from the master and company of Tuckers, the said poor are intitled to some perquisites by them granted at St. Paul's fair, to be paid the master and wardens of the Weavers' company on every 2d day of February, for the benefit of the poor for ever. The poor here had at first only 2s. 6d. per quarter, the gift of Mr. Thomas Goldsmith; but they afterwards also received an addition of 40s. per annum, the gift of Mrs. Sarah Smith, payable out of an estate at Max Mills, in the county of Somerset.

Round the bell at the Weavers'-hall was this inscription in Gothic letters: "Elizabeth de Burco: libera de ira Dei nos Jesu Christe."

In 1786 this Weavers'-hall, used as a chapel for the Methodists, was let on a lease for 100 years at an advanced rent of eight guineas per annum to the Jews for a synagogue, who have decorated it in a neat expensive manner. It was opened for their use the 15th of September, 1786, with great ceremony, music, &c.

Under this is a small chapel with a large stone table, where divine service was antiently performed, but for many years hath been totally omitted. To this company belong several pieces of plate, and a horn like that at Queen's college in Oxford. The Weavers' chapel in Temple church also belongs to them, and they keep it in repair and receive for breaking the ground there. Prayers are read in it by the vicar yearly the 29th of May and the 5th of November in the morning, for which they pay 5s.

This company has declined greatly with the trade of clothing in this city.

The money collected for the standings, &c. at the winter Bristol fair, kept in Temple-street at St. Paul's tide, but the day is changed since to the 1st of September, is applied to charitable uses, being first applied to repair the water pipes and conduit of this parish, and the remainder is distributed to the poor.

Edward 6th. granted the charter the 24th of May 1550, for holding this fair for eight days to the mayor and commonalty, who "out of charitable compassion to the poor of the parish and their better relief and support," did by indenture the 28th of September, 2d Charles 2d. give and grant to the church-

churchwardens and parishioners and their successors full power and authority for and in the name of said mayor and commonalty, to gather and levy and receive all tolls, stallage, profits, and revenues of the fair, to be employed for the relief of the poor and reparations of the said parish and the water courses thereunto belonging, the churchwardens paying to the corporation at Lady-day for ever the sum of 20s. The fair is accordingly proclaimed the day before it is held by the city crier, charging all to sell no wares till the following morning at seven o'clock.

C H A P. XXIII.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. THOMAS.

THIS was from the earliest times a chapel to Bedminster, and is called in old deeds by the name of the Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, and seems to have arisen upon the increase of buildings and inhabitants on Redcliff side of the city; for Redcliff-street itself was part of the manor of Bedminster of old, and belonged to Thomas de Berkly as such. In a manuscript (penes me) the church is said "to have been very old, and being fouldie rent" and crased was rebuilden by Segawen or Segovian, a Lumbard gouler or "usurer;" but in what year is not mentioned. It is very apparent, that it was built at different times. The present structure is lofty and spacious, after the Gothic order, with a lofty nave and long side ailes, and the tower at the west end with bells without any spire strong and plain. It is in length from the west door to the high altar 46 yards, the porch is 3 yards and 2 feet, and the breath of the whole church 19 yards 1 foot.

William Botoner, p. 214. says, "The length of the church of St. Thomas contains 73 steps or 48 virgæ or yards, its breadth 21 yards." But in p. 204. "The church of St. Thomas with the choir contains in length 80 steps, its breadth 55 steps;" and in p. 239. he says, "It is 43 yards in length," which shews the uncertainty of his measurement."

This church is often mentioned in old deeds as early as the year 1200. It is next to Redcliff the largest as well as most elegant building, though only a chapel

chapel like it to another (Bedminster) church. This parish formerly being well inhabited and full of clothiers, and their dependents required such a spacious church to assemble in for divine service, where every individual thought it his duty or was obliged to attend, especially every sabbath-day. Edward Colston, Esq; gave 50l. towards the repairs of this church. Near the middle is a cupola raised or glazed lanthorn, also an organ which cost 360l. is at the west end.

John Stoke established a chauntry the 15th of March, 6th Richard 2d. for two chaplains to celebrate every day before the altar of the Virgin Mary in this church, where the said John Stoke was buried, for the souls of his Majesty and of the commonalty of Bristol, of himself and Joan his wife, &c. and he left to the proctors 5l. 5s. per annum for them to have his obit held annually and that of his three wives on the 27th of May.

John Burton, burgess of Bristol and merchant, by will dated March 1, 1454, 3d of Henry 6th. gave lands and tenements to Nicholas Pittes, vicar of Redcliff and St. Thomas, Philip Mede and others, to find a chaplain for a perpetual chauntry in this church at the altar of St. John the Baptist, near which he was buried, to pray for the King and Queen, himself, and Isabel his wife.

Robert Chepe left messuages and tenements in Redcliff-street, Temple-street, and Defence-street, 11th Henry 4th. for a chauntry priest to pray for his soul and that of Agnes his wife, at the altar of St. Nicholas in the church of St. Thomas.

Richard de Welles having obtained licence of Mortmain of King Edward 3d. did by will bequeath tenements in Fuller's-street for a chauntry in the chapel of St. Thomas, at the altar of the Holy Trinity and the Virgin Mary, which was confirmed by Ralph Bishop of Bath and Wells, at Banwell March 9, 1333.

The principal Monuments and Inscriptions are the following :

A monument to Edward Bovey, with brass figures with four sons behind him, and two daughters behind his wife, with an acrostic of ten lines. He died the 20th of April, 1662. Arms, or. 3 crosses bows G. impaling Giffard G. three lions or. passant.

Another, large, " To Edward Morgan, Esq; alderman, who died 13 Sept. 1669, aged 61." Arms, or. a griffin rampant f. quartered with G. two bars or.

" To Richard Crump, alderman and member of parliament, who died 14 January, 1699, aged 72." Arms, chevernois of fix, or. and G.

" To Charles Gresley, apothecary, of an antient family in Derbyshire," with a long Latin inscription. Arms, vaire, arg. and G.

" To

" To Humphrey Brent, A. M. minister of this church," with a long Latin inscription in his praise. He was buried under the communion table 1677, aged 40.

" To Maurice Ceely Trevillian, Esq; who died 2 April, 1781, aged 74."

" To John Haythorn, who died 14 January, 1732, aged 74; and to Nicholas Haythorn his son, who died 6 March, 1733, aged 38; Anna his mother, who died 27 July, 1710, aged 44; also Henry Haythorn, who died 11 July, 1737, aged 27."

" To Ezekiel Longman, Esq; sheriff, who died 9 August, 1738; and Sufanna his wife, who died 6 March, 1733, aged 58."

" To John Berrow, Esq; mayor, who died 29 November, 1745, aged 60; and Mary his wife, who died 1 July, 1745, aged 60." Arms, arg. a fess f. betwixt three goats heads coupéd erased of the second.

" To George Hellier, alderman, who died 21 April, 1656; and Eleanor his wife, who had six sons and eight daughters: she died 28 August, 1643."—Arms, G. chevron or. betwixt three spur-rowels of the second, quartered with chevernois of fix or. and G.

On a high tomb near the font was this: " Robertus Rogers, aldermannus, obiit 11 Apr. 1633, ætat. 80. Alionora uxor, obiit 15 Jan. 1624.—Richardus Rogers, miles filius Roberti, obiit 18 Aug. 1635, æt. 39. Rebecca uxor, obiit 3 Jan., ætat. 20. Sine prole.—Richardus filius Richardi ex Maria conjugē, obiit 18 Julii 1634. Ævo primo."

In the churchyard a tomb with inscription " To Matthew Warren, 1639." Arms, az. within three mullets or. a lion rampant of the second.—Also Judith Warren, daughter of William Gibbs, sheriff, with several children, nine sons and five daughters. Date obliterated.—Posuit Matthew Warren non sine lachrymis 7 May, 1627."

In the same wall, " To William Gibbs, some time of the common council of this city: he died 3 April, 1603. Also Ann Loyd, daughter of William Gibbs: she died 4 December, 1625." Arms, arg. three battle axes in fess f. a crescent in chief.

Sir Philip Gibbes, Bart. of Hilton park, near Wolverhampton, is descended from this William Gibbs of Bristol. One George Gibbes, brewer, bought an estate at Bedminster in the year 1625 for the lives of his three sons, George, William, and Matthew.

There are several tenements and lands belonging to this church, which together produce about 140l. per annum, besides renewals of lives.

The church plate is one large silver chalice 24 ounces 2 pennyweights, one ditto gilt, 1695, 13 ounces 5 pennyweights, one silver in usum sacræ eucharistiæ,

ristia, 1685, two flaggons large, the gift of Thomas Woodward, 1635, 37 ounces 15 pennyweights, one small, donum Thomæ Heathcote, 16 May, 1630, 36 ounces 15 pennyweights, two candlesticks, the gift of Mr. John Gibbs, fenn. 1717.

The vicars of St. Thomas are the same as those of Redcliff, to which it is a chapel.

The collection for the vicar annually amounts to about 90l.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Thomas's Parish.

Benefactors to St. Thomas's almshouse in the Long-row.

1292, Mr. Simon Burton, five times mayor of this city, founded this almshouse for sixteen persons. (He is buried therein.)

1530, Thomas White, Esq; some time mayor, gave 4s. per month for ever to the poor therein.

1547, Mr. John Sprint gave 3s. 4d. on Good Friday for ever.

1566, Mr. Thomas Silk gave 3s. at Easter and 3s. at Christmas for ever.

1550, William Pyckes, Esq; some time mayor, gave 6l. 13s. 4d. per annum for ever, to be distributed to the poor of the almshouse.

1634, Matthew Warren, Esq; some time mayor, gave 10s. on the second Sunday in Lent for ever.

1647, Mr. John Cox gave 10s. on St. John's-day for ever.

Mr. Robert Wory, of London, a native of this parish, gave 5l. per annum, to be paid on the 1st day of May, August, November, and the 2d of February by equal proportions yearly for ever.

1669, Edward Morgan, Esq; some time mayor and alderman of this city, gave 12d. per week to the poor in bread for ever, out of his lands at Pitnell at Tockington, in the county of Gloucester.

1670, Sir William Penn, Knight, gave 30l. the profit thereof for ever to the poor of this parish.

1672, Mr. James Brathwayte, son-in-law of Mr. Richard Crumpe, gave 10l. to the use of the poor on the 22d of October for ever.

1673, Mr. Christopher Brinsden gave 30l. the profit thereof to the minister for a sermon 10s. to the clerk 2s. 6d. to the sexton 1s. 6d. and the rest to the poor, on St. Bartholomew's-day or the 24th of August for ever.

1674, Mr. Edward Grant gave 30l. the profit thereof to the poor housekeepers of this parish at Christmas for ever.

- 1677, Mr. James Friend gave 20l. the profit thereof in equal distributions to four sick families yearly for ever.
- 1680, Mr. Samuel Wharton, some time sheriff of this city, gave 20s. to be equally distributed to four poor house-holders or widows, not receiving weekly alms, on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever.
- 1683, Mr. Nathaniel Webb, grocer, and member of the common council, gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor at Michaelmas yearly for ever.
- 1684, Mr. Michael Hunt, soap-maker, a member of the common council, gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor at Michaelmas yearly for ever.
- Mr. Richard Brayfield, grocer, gave 10l. the profit thereof to four house-holders at Christmas yearly for ever.
- 1685, Mr. Robert Amberfon, gentleman, gave 100l. the profit thereof to six poor house-holders, not receiving alms, yearly for ever.
- 1686, Mr. Samuel Hale, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread weekly for ever; and also the interest of 230l. towards the placing apprentices of poor children in seven parishes of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish is one.
- 1687, Mr. Charles Herbert, of this city, grocer, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish yearly for ever.
- 1691, Mr. Robert Wory, citizen of London, born in this parish, gave 100l. the profit thereof to the poor in the almshouse yearly for ever.
- 1693, Mr. James Seward gave 10l. the profit to be disposed of to the poor on Sunday for ever.
- 1695, Mr. Edmund Laggat, of Chew Stoke, gave 20l. the profit to the poor of this parish for ever.
- 1699, Mr. John Gore, gent. gave 20l. the profit thereof, viz. during his life 12s. to four of the most aged persons in the almshouse two men and two women, and 12s. to four housekeepers (poor and not receiving alms) and after his decease to eight like poor housekeepers on St. John's-day yearly for ever.
- 1701, Mr. John Worgan, wine-cooper, gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor, of which this parish hath 32s. per annum for eight housekeepers, viz. 4s. each on the 29th of September for ever.
- 1706, Mr. John Hipsley, of this parish, gave 40l. the profit, viz. 20s. per annum to the minister for catechising the children and reading prayers on week days, and 20s. per annum to four poor sick families of this parish for ever.
- 1709, December 20, Sir Thomas Day, Knight, born in this parish, some time member of parliament and twice mayor and elder alderman of this

city, gave 10l. to the poor in bread at his funeral, and 30l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread weekly for ever; and 50l. more towards rebuilding the almshouse in the Long-row.

1714, Mr. Charles Jones, of this parish, soap-maker, gave 20l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish for ever.

1716, Joseph Jackson, Esq; some time alderman of this city, gave 40s. a year for ever, 10s. of it to be paid every quarter to a poor burges or burges's widow of this parish.

1737, Mr. Edward Dowell, late of this city, gave 100l. the profit thereof to forty poor house-holders of this parish on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever.

Mrs. Lydia Williams, late of this city, widow, gave 100l. the profit thereof to eight poor widows of this parish, not receiving alms, on the 18th of October yearly for ever.

Mr. George Bridges, late of this parish, distiller, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor yearly for ever.

Mr. Samuel Nelmes, late of this parish, distiller, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor in the almshouse in coal on St. Thomas's-day yearly for ever.

1724, Mr. John Newman, plumber, gave 20l. the profit thereof in bread to the poor of this parish on Sundays for ever.

1726, Mrs. Althea Hopkins gave 20l. the profit thereof to four sick families of this parish, not receiving alms, quarterly for ever, at the discretion of the churchwardens.

1727, Mr. Matthew Worgan gave 40l. the profit thereof to eight poor families of this parish, not receiving alms on the 28th of October for ever.

1730, Mr. Morris Thomas gave 20l. the interest to the poor in bread on the 1st of March for ever.

1785, Mr. T. Lewis gave 20l. the interest thereof in coals yearly for ever.

1651, Mrs. Julian Stibbins gave 20s. to the poor yearly for ever.

1656, Mr. Christopher Tovey gave 20l. the profit thereof weekly to the poor for ever.

Mr. George Hellier, alderman, gave 40l. the profit thereof 10s. yearly for a sermon, the rest for ever to the poor in bread.

1658, Mr. Samuel Hellier gave 10l. the profit thereof weekly to the poor in bread for ever.

Mr. Thomas Longman gave 30s. upon St. Thomas's-day to six house-keepers yearly for ever.

1659, Edmund Denton, in the county of Buckingham, Esq; and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Richard Rogers, Knight, gave 45l. to the poor of this parish for ever, the profit of which is to be distributed to them in bread weekly.

Mr. George Longman, of London, son of Mr. Thomas Longman, of this parish, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be disposed of as followeth: 20s. for a sermon, the clerk 5s. the sexton 2s. 6d. and the rest of the interest to be given in bread to the poor on the 14th of February yearly for ever.

1679, Mrs. Mary Boucher and Mrs. Jane Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. apiece to 52 widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a part. N. B. The lands were purchased in 1679.

1567, Mr. Walter West gave 20s. yearly to the poor for ever.

1620, Thomas Hobbin gave 4l. 10s. to be distributed yearly for ever to the poor at Christmas, and 10s. for a sermon.

1626, Christopher Woodward gave 10s. yearly for ever to the poor, and 10s. for a sermon.

1630, Mr. Ralph Farmer gave 1s. per week in bread for twenty years.

Mr. Robert Kitchen gave 20s. to two housekeepers yearly for ever. Paid by the chamberlain of Bristol.

1632, 1635, Sir Richard Rogers and Mr. Robert Rogers gave 2s. 8d. per week in bread to the poor for ever.

1634, Mrs. Eleanor Woodward gave 10s. yearly for ever.

Mr. Matthew Warren the elder gave 10l. for a stock to the use of the poor for ever, and 10s. yearly to the almshouse.

1639, Mr. William Pitt, of this parish, merchant, gave 30l. in land to the poor for ever.

Mr. George Harrington gave 20s. to two poor house-holders yearly for ever. Paid by the chamberlain of Bristol.

1642, Mrs. Mary Stile, widow, gave 10l. the profit yearly to the poor for ever.

1661, Mr. Francis Glead, some time sheriff, gave 10s. a quarter to a poor house-holder.

1667, Mr. John Pope, aldermen, gave 10s. for a sermon, and 20s. per annum to the poor of this parish on the 7th of November yearly for ever.

1668, Mr. Michael Deyos, merchant, gave 40s. per annum in bread and coals to four poor widows for ever.

1668, Mr. Anthony Farmer, alderman, gave 40l. the profit thereof to be distributed on All Saints-day to six poor families of this parish for ever, the heads thereof to be freemen of this city.

GIFT-SERMONS to be preached in St. Thomas's church.

New Year's-day, Mr. C. Woodward's.	Innocents-day, Mr. Robert Rogers's,
St. George's-day, Mr. Geo. Benson's.	alderman.
Easter Monday, Sir R. Rogers, Knt.	First Sunday after All Saints-day, Mr.
Tuesday in Rogation week, Mrs. Eleanor Woodward's.	John Pope's, alderman.
Whit Tuesday, Mrs. Julian Shuter's.	The second Sunday in Lent, Mr.
St. Thomas's-day, Mr. Tho. Holbin's.	Matthew Warren's.
Christmas-day, Mr. George Hellier's,	February 14, Mr. George Longman's.
alderman.	Bartholomew's-day, Mr. Christopher
	Brimfden's.

In this parish was an almshouse, erected by Simon de Burton about the year 1292. Leland, vol. vii. p. 89. mentions it: "The almshouse by Seynt Thomas church is called Burtons Almshouse. Burton maior of the towne and founder is buried in it." It was rebuilt at the expence of the parish.

Thomas Silk 1566 gave yearly 1l. 1s. Walter West 1567 gave 15s. yearly. William Picks or Pikes, mercer, by will 1551 gave 6l. 13s. 4d. to arise out of land purchased by his executors, and vested in the corporation that the chamberlain should pay that sum yearly to the sixteen poor of this house. Thomas White gave them 2l. 8s. per annum by the chamberlain. Robert Wory gave 5l. per annum by the churchwardens. The rest of their maintenance they receive from St. Peter's Hospital, the general poor house of the city.

The said William Picks gave this parish also 20l. "towards fetching home of the water to St. Thomas's pipe." To this others had been contributors, particularly John Stokes 1381, who by will ordered to be buried in this church in St. Mary's chapel, and "bequeathed money towards the new work of bringing water from Redcliff and Temple-gate to the church of St. Thomas in a leaden conduit." But afterwards by an agreement with the vestry of Redcliff, and a small yearly gratuity, and being at the joint expence of repairing the Redcliff pipes when out of order, this work was placed on a permanent footing; and the inhabitants are supplied with water here whenever it flows at Redcliff, being brought thence in leaden pipes.

In 1570 William Tucker, draper, then mayor, did at his own great charges purchase a market to be kept in St. Thomas-street on Thursday throughout the year.

In the grant of Queen Elizabeth of St. Thomas-street market, 11 December, the 13th year of her reign, the poverty of the inhabitants and ruinous state of the houses there are mentioned as reasons for granting the inhabitants the privileges of a market: "Cum nobis detur intelligi, &c. i. e. Since it is made known to us by the mayor and commonalty that not only the street called St. Thomas-street, but also the houses, structures, and edifices in it are reduced to ruin and decay, to the great nuisance of that part of the city; and that the late inhabitants being forced by want, through the decay of their trade of making woollen cloths have suffered their houses to go to ruin; and that a certain almshouse situated near the said street for the support of many poor, and also a certain canal or pipe of water situated there which beyond the memory of man has been supported and maintained chiefly by the said inhabitants, are now in such a state on account of their poverty, that in a short time they will come to extreme ruin, if a remedy be not provided, &c. We therefore considering the premises, as also that the said mayor and commonalty and inhabitants of the said street may be the better able to support and maintain as well the said houses and buildings in the said street, as the aforesaid almshouse and pipe of water, have granted of our free grace, &c. to the said mayor and commonalty and their successors, that they may have one market every Thursday (die jovis) in each week in the said street of St. Thomas for yarn, wool, (averiis) cattle, and all other things: and we grant to the aforesaid mayor and commonalty and their successors all stallage, picage, toll, and customs of the said market with their appurtenances, also the toll and weighing of yarn, wool, and other things, &c. and all other usual profits of a market." Page 80 of the Great White Book of Bristol.

This grant being obtained, Michael Sondley, apothecary, with the rest of the vestry, builded the market place and a kind of tolsey the whole breadth of the church in front, with a flat covering of lead supported by pillars of freestone, and round it were afterwards posts with brass caps for telling money or writing upon, on which were the dates and names of the donors, Thomas Day, Esq; 1691, Nathaniel Day his son 1691, John Gore, of Knowle, gent. 1691, Robert Stevens, of Knowle, gent. 1691, Nicholas Baly, soap-maker, 1691; but these with the erection were all removed in the year 1781.

The Wool-hall there seems to have been built at the same time, having the arms of Queen Elizabeth upon it. That the parish might have the benefit of this market, the feoffees of this church purchased the same with all its profits

profits from the corporation, and passed away certain houses in Wine-street, being St. Thomas church land, to the use of the chamber, where were afterwards erected a meal or corn market and two new houses in their room; but the churchwardens of St. Thomas were obliged by covenant to pay the corporation 20s. a year rent for the royalties of the market, and 2s. 6d. for suit to Temple Fee out of several tenements, also 5s. per annum for the sheep market. The market was then proclaimed in form to be holden the first time the Thursday after Lady-day, the 13th of Elizabeth, and so for ever to continue.

C H A P. XXIV.

Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St. MARY-REDCLIFF.

REDCLIFF (Radeclivia, Ruber Clivus) with St. Thomas and Temple parishes, like Southwark in London, lie on the south side of the city and of the river. All ancient deeds agree in proving its antiquity, then part of the manor of Bedminster. But Leland mentions it (in Cygrn. Cant.) "as being added to the city after the bridge was built, and being surrounded with a strong wall, when William Earl of Gloucester governed this province and city." And Camden very erroneously calls Redcliff, "some little houses belonging to the suburbs, joined to the rest of the city by a stone bridge."

In the year 789 the Saxon King Brightricus, or Bithrick, is said to have erected a church of "durable stone, goodlye to behoulde," also a pallace, of both which at present not the least traces are to be seen to ascertain their site. But in an old vellum roll (pene. me) is the following short account of it: "Ynne dolvyng wythynne the walle was founde in the howse of Johannes Coshe in Radcleve-street a parchmente in whych was wroten the accounte of Brythrycus pallace called Rudhalle wyth the walles of Radcleve:"

Also of "the auntyaunte gate of Saynte Marye ybuylden by Kynge Bythrycus in the year mccccxxxxxxxix; as itte stood in daies of Edward Confessoure;" it was preserved in a rude drawing, being embattled at top, and adorned with two shields with a cross patee on each side of the window, and the

the same on each side of the top of the arch, where was to be seen the foot of a portcullis to let down.

The same West Saxon King Britrick is said also to have built "the afforciaments erafen afterwards by the Danes."—Of all these buildings of antiquity there are however at present no remains.—The old gate of Redcliff has been taken down, and rebuilt in an elegant manner in 1730; and this last also to render the street more commodious was taken down in the year 1772.

The old chronicles of Bristol (in the city chamber and others) mention a church built to our Lady at Redcliff by Sir Simon de Burton, under the year 1294. An old church there before tending to ruin had several grants of land by will made towards repairing it, some of which are dated so early as the year 1207, 1229, 1230, a proof of the old church afore-mentioned being erected before Sir Simon de Burton's:—there are also several original indulgences (penes me) granted by several bishops with relaxation of penance on certain conditions, viz. that "they would devoutly visit the church of the Blessed Mary of Redcliff in Bristol, and there charitably contribute towards the repair of the same, and pray for the souls of those there interred;" the soul of Helen de Wedmore is in one particularly to be prayed for, whose body is there buried as mentioned in the indulgence, one of which bears date Bristol 1232, being granted by John Bishop of Ardfert; another by Peter Quivil Bishop of Exeter, dated at Radeclive 1287; another by David Archbishop of Cassel, dated at Bristol in the first year of his consecration 1246;* another by Christian Episcopus Hymelacensis, dated at Bristol 1246, in the year of his pontificate; and another by Robert Bishop of Bath and Wells, dated 4 kalend. of November 1278, in the fourth year of his consecration. These were all found in Canynge's chest over the north porch of the present church of Redcliff: as they were granted towards promoting the repairs of the fabrick of a church here then in ruins, they undeniably prove that there was a church here dedicated to the Blessed Mary of Redcliff long before the time of that mentioned to be built by Sir Simon de Burton, supposed to be the first founder of a church here.

The

* Omnibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit: Christianus Dei gratia Hymelacensis Episcopus salutem æternam in domino: de misericordia Dei Omnipotentis et Gloriosæ Virginis genetricis ejus & omnium sanctorum meritis plenius confidentes omnibus confessis & vere penitentibus qui causa venerationis & orationis ecclesiam beatæ Mariæ de Redclive pie & devote visitaverint nec non de bonis sibi a deo concessis ad reparationem ejusdem ecclesiæ aliquid caritative contulerint atque pro animabus quorum corpora ibidem requiescunt oraverint de injuncta sibi pænitiâ decem dies relaxamus—datum apud Bristoliam Anno Gratia MCCXLVI, pontificatus nostri Anno.

The following account of Sir Symon de Byrtonne, and of his being a founder of a church at Redcliff, is transcribed from a parchment manuscript of Rowley's, communicated by Chatterton:

"Symonne de Byrtonne eldest sonne of Syrre Baldwynus de Byrtonne was borne on the eve of the annunciation m.c.c.xxxxxxv. hee was desyrabelle of aspect and in hys yowthe much yeven to Tourneyeinge, and m.c.c.xxxxxxxx at Wynchestre yule games won myckle honnoure, he abstaynyd from marryage, he was myckle learned & ybuylded a house in the Yle of Wyghte after fashyon of a pallayse royaul goodlye to behoulde wyth carvelly'd pyllars on whych was thys ryme wroten: Fulle nobille is thys Kyngelie howse and eke fulle nobille thee, echone is for the other fyte as faynctes for heaven bee. Hee ever was fullen of almesdeeds and was of the poore beloved: in m.c.c.lxxxv Kynge Edwarde * kepte hys Chrystmaffe at Bryghtstowe and proceeded agaynste the Welchmenne ebroughtenne manye stronge and dowghtee knyghts, amongst whom were Syrre Ferrars Nevylle, Geoffroie Freeman, Clymar Percie, Heldebrand Gournie, Ralph Mohun, Syr Lyfter Percie, and Edgare Knyvet, knyghtes of renowne, who established a three days jouste on Sayncte Maryes Hylle: Syrre Ferrars Nevylle appeared dyghte in ruddy armoure bearyng a rampaunte lyon Gutte de Sangue, agaynste hym came Syr Gervayse Teyfdylle who bearyd a launce issuyng proper but was quycklie overthrowen: then appeared Leonarde Ramsey who had a honde issuante holdeyng a bloudie swerde peercyng a couroune wyth a sheelde peafenue wyth sylver; hee ranne twayne tyltes but Neville throwen hym on the thyrd rencountre: then dyd the aforesayd Syrre Symonne de Byrtonne avow that if he overthrowen Syrre Ferrars Nevylle, he woulde there erecte & buylde a chyrche to owre Ladye: allgate there floode anigh Lamyngtonnes Ladies chamber: hee then encountred vygorously and bore Syrre Ferrars horse and man to the grounde remaynyng konyng, victore knyght of the Jouste, ande settyng atte the ryghte honde of K. Edwarde. Inne m.c.c.lxxxxi hee performed hys vowe ybuylden a godelye chyrch from a patterne of St. Oswaldes Abbyes Chyrche and the day of our Lordes natyvyty m.c.cci, Gylbert de Sante Leonfardoe Byshope of Chychestre dyd dedicate it to the Holie Vyrgynne Marye moder of Godde."†

Though

* This circumstance is proved by our old chronicles under the year 1285, "Rex Edw. 1. per Walliam progrediens occidentalem intravit Glamorganciam, quæ ad Comitem Gloveruæ noscitur pertinere: Rex dein Bristolliam veniens festum Dominicæ nativitatis eo Anno ibi tenuit."

† The poem of the Tournament in the printed collection of Rowley's poems seems to bear some relation to this account of Sir Symon de Bourton, which if genuine must tend to confirm the authenticity of that poem.

Though other proofs cannot be produced at present concerning these particular anecdotes of the life of Sir Symon de Burton, yet it is most certain from indubitable records, that he was a citizen of Bristol of the greatest eminence and rank in it, had been chosen mayor six times (vid. annals below for the years 1291, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1303, 1304,) of great wealth and renown, and a very bountiful benefactor there, having erected an almshouse about 1292 in the Long-Row, in the parish of St. Thomas, where Leland says he was buried, and the almshouse rebuilt still retains his name. I find his arms blazoned thus: f. azure, a crescent within a bordure or. by the name of Burton: by others thus, azure a fess between three talbots heads erased or.

This church of de Burton's seems not to have been completed, or to have obtained very large endowments, for a manuscript (Hobson's) says, "Simon de Burton, mayor in 1294, had two years before began to build Redcliff church, but he lived not to finish it, which afterwards William Cannynges did, and gave lands to repair it for ever."

Whether the church was dedicated for religious offices before it was finished, and was left to be completed afterwards is worthy of enquiry, for it can be proved that in the year 1376 (see the mayor's calendar) "William Cannynges built the body of Redcliff church from the cross aisle downwards, and so the church was finished as it is now." This was but 75 years after the dedication of Burton's church, so that it may be presumed to be the completing that which was begun and partly built by him; especially as it was their custom in all large works of this kind "to lay out the plan, build part, and leave it to be completed by their successors in future times.* They usually began at the east end or choir part, which when finished was consecrated, and the remainder carried on as far as they were able." Such large buildings required great expences as well as long time, and great labour to finish them, at an æra too when money was scarce and many good workmen not easily procured. As a confirmation of this, in several wills dated about the year 1380 &c: (for the church must have taken many years to be completed) money is often given to the fabrick and repairing of Redcliff church.† This William Cannynges was for the sixth time mayor of Bristol in the year 1389, a merchant of great fortune, weight and respect among his fellow-citizens; in a station of life fitted to be a leading man, and to have the character of a founder of such a work, promoted no doubt by donations by will and voluntary contributions of other devout

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* Vid. Bentham's History of the Church of Ely.

† One will dated 1388, of John Muleward, mentions a gift in money, "ad opus beatæ Mariæ de Redeclyve:" which shews the work was then going on.

devout and well-disposed people, as well as by grants and indulgences from the bishops of those days. He lived to the year 1396, when the church was probably finished.

But this church erected at so much cost, and that had been so long time in building, was at St. Paul's tide 1445-6 so much damaged in a storm of thunder and lightning, that the lofty spire or steeple was thrown down, and falling upon the body of the church injured it so much, that it was almost ruinous. The manuscript accounts of this are related nearly in the same manner, in two very ancient ones it is recorded, "1445, at St. Paul's tide was very tempestuous weather, by which Redcliff steeple was overthrown in a thunder clap, doing great harme to the churche by the fall thereof, but by the good devotion of Mr. William Canynges it was reedified to his everlasting prayse."—Another, though differing in the year, says in 1442, (the year Mr. William Canynges was mayor,) "This William Cannynge wyth the helpe of others of the worshipfulle towne of Bristol kepte masons and workmenne to edifie, repayre, cover and glaze the church of Redcliff, which his grandfather had founded in the days of Edward the 3d."—In another thus: "William Canynges reedified and enlarged the church of Redcliff almost destroyed by lightning in 1445, in so exquisite a manner, that he has ever since passed for the founder thereof, and he afterwards gave 500l. to keep it in repair."—Here we have a second William Canynge, son of John and the grandson of William, for a founder, which will settle the doubts that have arisen about *his* being the sole original founder of this church.—There was one here before Burton had began, and Canynge's grandfather had completed this.—Leland says of St. Sprite's chapel, "this was a parochie before the building of Redcliff greate new chyrche." Whether this or another, may be a little uncertain: one there certainly was long before the year 1200, as is proved by old deeds. That the last William Canynges was assisted by his fellow-citizens contributing towards this great work is very probable; that he kept a great number of carpenters and masons at work as above-mentioned is proved by William Botoner, p. 99, where he says, "habuit operarios, carpentarios, masones &c. omni Dei C. homines:" and p. 191, he mentions "the houses of the workmen in freestone for the foundation of Redcliff church," "as situated near the chambers of Cannynge priests."—All this tends to prove what part the last William Canynges had in building or rebuilding Redcliff church to entitle him to the name of a founder, as he has been generally and deservedly esteemed.—The same plan was observed by him in rebuilding and restoring it to its original beauty after being thrown down by the lightning; the south aisle, where the mischief fell heaviest, seems

seems to have been rebuilt with a somewhat more elevated arch and in a lighter style than the north; a difference also is between the windows of the north and south aisle.—The fall of such a large and very high steeple upon the church must have done great injury, and destroyed every thing wherever it fell.

That Mr. Canynges was a great builder farther appears from his erections afterwards at the college of Westbury, of which he is called Renovator & quasi alter fundator; *famosus & egregius vir, magnæ industriæ & circumspeditionis, & inter æteros specialissimus benefactor ecclesiæ de Redcliff*: (in a deed dated 1474 he is so called.)—He was the chief promoter of the work, the principal and “most special” benefactor to it; he was then the wealthiest and wisest (*ditissimus & sapientissimus*, as William Botoner, p. 83, calls him,) for such an undertaking: his piety and devotion excited him to prosecute, and his great riches enabled him to complete it: and whatever others might have contributed towards it, the whole seems to have been under his most judicious conduct and management, as he was confessedly the chief man of the city and most capable of so grand a work.—Regard to his ancestors must also have been a powerful motive with him, as it was renewing and reinstating a work his grandfather had signalized himself in completing; which seems to be implied in one of his deeds, wherein he says concerning his benefactions to this church, “*ut piæ voluntas antecessorum meorum &c.*” “that the pious will of my ancestors &c. might be observed &c.” and as to his piety and devout turn of mind, it cannot so well be seen as in his own words, in a deed dated the 6th of Edward the 4th. for establishing the chauntry of St. Catherine in this church.*

The following deed concerning a grant of money to the friers minor of this city for their better support shews his pious and charitable disposition: “Be it known unto all men, that the 29th of November in the year 1465, we the guardian and friers minor all of the convent of Bristol there dwelling, considering the affection of pure devotion of the worshipful man William Canynges which he daily shews to the order of our seraphick father St. Francis and especially to our convent aforesaid in exhibiting his alms and manifold benefits long since conferred upon us, and in future to be bestowed—for out of his pious

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charity

* Cum ego Williclmus Canynges mercator villæ Bristolliaë, per quam plurimos annorum curriculos secularibus negotiis multiformiter explicatus honesto cum labore mercatorio rem augere domesticam industriose curaverim, imminente mihi tandem debilitate sæculi animadvertens tam mundiales prosperos orbis quam gloriam & splendorem instabiles & fictitios quasi ictu oculi multoties evanescere, summamque felicitatem in rebus cælestibus Dei complacentiâ in sui divini cultûs augmento aliisque operibus Caritatum ad animorum fidelium medelam persistere concernens, &c. fundandi caritativam perpetuam litteras patentes regias impetravi &c.

charity for the relief of the said convent he has faithfully given and paid to the same convent twenty pounds on the year and day aforementioned.—By tenor of these presents with licence of Frier Thomas Radnor then minister of England we have promised and granted to the said William Canynges and Joanna his wife that their names be inscribed in the gift-book (datario) of our convent among the chief benefactors of the said convent, and that they be recommended as the custom is; and we have further promised and granted to the said William Canynges and Joanna his wife, that their obit the second festival next after St. Peter every year in the church of our said convent shall be solemnly celebrated with exequiis mortuorum and mass of requiem by note for the soul of the said William Canynges and Joanna his wife, of John Canynges and Joanna his wife father and mother of the said William Canynges, of John Milton and Joanna his wife and for the souls for whom it is bound to pray and of all the faithful departed, and since from the testimony of Christ in the gospel, the workman is worthy of his hire the aforesaid William loving his own soul and mindful of the words of Christ hath ordained and appointed by himself, his heirs and executors to the brothers of the said convent every year for ever on the day aforesaid as well in his life time as after his death in recompence of their labours One quarter of an ox of the value of forty pence four quarters of a good sheep of the price and value of sixteen pence English money and forty pence in pure money to be given for bread and ale; that therefore the said promise and grant may be so confirmed as not to be broken, I Frier Thomas minister of England in virtue of that holy obedience to all the guardians and friers of the aforementioned convent present and future do command that they solemnly celebrate as well in their life time as after their death when it comes the exequies for the dead with mass of requiem every year on the said day for the souls of the said William and Joanna his wife and of all the abovementioned and moreover that they cause this to be read in the chapterhouse by the friers there gathered together once in the year namely on the vigil or day of nativity of the blessed St. Francis: In witness of this grant and promise the seal of my office together with the seal of the keeper of the custody of Bristol and convent of Bristol is openly appendant—Done, read and sealed at Bristol before the friers of the aforementioned convent in their chapterhouse met the day and year abovewritten.”—The seal is very curious, exhibiting several figures well engraved standing, one kneeling about to be killed with a sword held up, the original deed in latin penes me.

Mr. Canynge's family had long flourished here as the wealthiest merchants and principal men of the city; his grandfather William had been six times,
his

his father John bayliff and mayor, and himself five times mayor.—But the principal thing for which William Canynges the son of John is celebrated, is the part he had in re-edifying and repairing the church of Redcliff thrown down in a storm of thunder and lightning.

This church has received the general approbation, and attracted the applause and admiration of all good judges ; though large and spacious, it has a light and airy appearance ; the pillars neat and slender, not over large and massy. It is sufficiently ornamented, yet not crowded with little parts and mean decorations, broke every where and divided into small pieces, scarce perceivable by the eye. The high embowed roof, being a solid arch of freestone, is lofty and grand, and adorned at the meeting of the ribs of the several little arches with curious twists and knots, scarce one alike. Over this is a wooden roof for the leaden covering 6 feet betwixt the two in height.

This church is built on a red sandy rock or cliff, from which it derives its name. The ascent to this stately structure (on the north-west side) is by steps most of them being 18 feet long, sufficient to admit twelve men abreast, which were new laid with Purbeck stone in 1753, and ornamented with a rail and a handsome balustrade of freestone, as is also the western side of the churchyard. In length the whole church with the Lady chapel is 239 feet, and from north to south of the great cross ailes is 117 feet ; the breadth of the three cross ailes is 44 feet, the breadth of the body and two side ailes is 59 feet ; the height of the two north and south ailes from east to west is 25 feet, which is also the height of the two side cross ailes ; the height of the middle cross aile is 54 feet, equal to which is the height of the middle aile from the west door to the high altar. The length of the middle aile together with those of the north and south are all equal 197 feet from the west end to the high altar, behind which is the Lady chapel, being in length 42 feet and in breadth 24, in height 26 feet. The whole roof of the church throughout is artificially vaulted with good stone, supported with twelve curious freestone pillars on each side the body of the church, and eight on each side supporting the great cross aile. The whole workmanship is so exquisite, as also its arched foundation on the north prospect, which adds to its height, strength, and largeness, with the adjoining chapel of our Lady at the east end, that it may justly be esteemed one of the most elegant parish churches in England. The whole building makes the form of a cross, and is all covered with lead. The tower which is at the west end of the north aile is in height 148 feet, (which most loftily sheweth itself as an eminent and noble land mark to all the adjacent parts.) In it hang a curious peal of eight bells, which were new cast in the year 1762. In the year 1445-6, about
St.

St. Paul's tide, the steeple was thrown down in a violent storm of thunder and lightning, and though not yet rebuilt, it is hoped will one day be restored to its former height and beauty by some well-disposed persons or at the vestry's expence.

The entrance into the church is at the great west door, to which you ascend by steps. The door is 8 feet in breadth and 12 high, within which is built a great stone gallery, on which is a grand magnificent organ being in all 53 feet high from the ground to the top of the crown pannel; the great case about 20 feet square contains one great and lesser organ; the musical part was executed by Messrs. Harris and Pyfield, and the whole cost 846l. 7s. Entering at this western door you are struck with a view of the whole length of the middle aisle at once, terminated by the chancel and altar, the height of the curiously arched roof, the rows of slender lofty pillars on each side, and the great length makes this a most advantageous view. There are also two lesser doors, one on the north and the other on the south side of the church, over each is a large porch with a room over. The north door was designed to be the grand entrance, being full of Gothic work niches for figures of saints and kings, wherein formerly in the days of Popery was the poor's charity-box and an "image of our Lady decorated with a fyne clothe with frynge to cover her," whence this was called, "*Capella Beatæ Mariæ in portico ecclesiæ de Redclive*," to which Maud Esterfield in 1491 gave a ring. This north porch is a most singular Gothic structure, and seems in proportion and shape different from the rest of the church; and is probably older and part of the ancient fabric, which being destroyed by the fall of the spire in the year 1445, this curious porch escaped the general ruin and was left standing, and now makes a part of the present structure. It appears not to be built at the same time by the walls not uniting above and fitly agreeing with the rest.

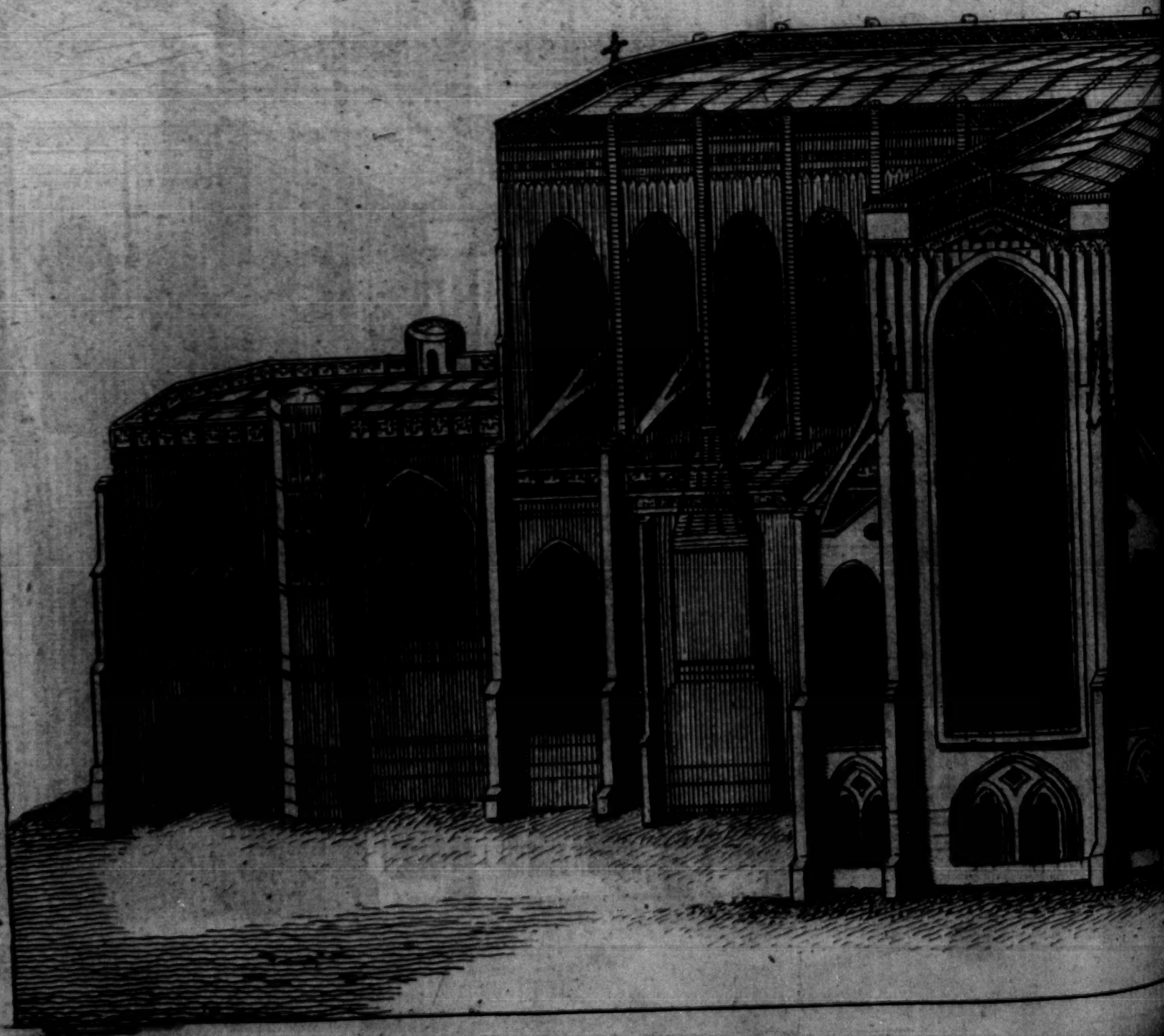
In the year 1754, January 30, were discovered, upon digging a grave in this porch, two freestone sepulchres with the skeletons of two persons complete, the bones lying in their natural order.

In the year 1709 in Queen Ann's reign the church was new pewed and beautified by a brief, which rose 1482l. expences 697l. 7s. neat 784l. 13s. of which Mr. Colston gave 100l. at which time the altar-piece was taken down, and a most magnificent one erected at the breadth of one arch farther to the eastward, which was formerly the passage behind the altar which opened a communication between the north and south aisles, in the middle of which passage was the entrance at two folding doors into the Lady's chapel. But at this time the entrance into it is at the east corner of the south aisle taken out of the churchyard.



St. Mary's Church

The CHURCH of St. Mary



an edolift



5

churchyard. The high altar had curious paintings of Moses with his rod, Aaron in his robes, St. Peter and Paul, with other decorations.

But the altar and chancel were repaired in the year 1757, and three fine paintings put up against the fronting Gothic east window and the two sides of the chancel, done by the skilful hand of the late ingenious Mr. Hogarth, who had five hundred guineas for them out of the church stock, but the whole with the frames, alterations, putting up, &c. cost 761l. os. 1d. The middle piece which is much the largest represents the Ascension of our Saviour, who is seen high in the air. The emanation of rays from the ascending Deity, beaming through the interstices of the surrounding clouds, is managed with tenderness and delicacy. The point of time, which the painter has chosen, is immediately after he has disappeared from the spectators below. In the fore ground on the right side at the bottom, St. Thomas is represented on one knee, and with hands lifted up and clasped together, is still eagerly looking upwards with an expression of wonder and adoration. On the other side is St. Peter in a reclining posture. Towards the middle is St. John, who, with a group of figures supposed to be the other disciples more remote from the eye, is listening attentively to the two men in white, who appeared upon that great occasion. The back ground is shut up with rocks and the bottom of the cloudy mass, except on one side, where under the skirts of the low-hanging clouds part of a magnificent city (supposed to be Jerusalem) appears to advantage, a long flash of forked lightning under a darkened sky casting a livid gloom over it, as a city devoted to destruction. The side piece on the right hand of this large picture represents the rolling of the stone to close the sepulchre, and the sealing of it in the presence of the high-priest. The labour and exertion naturally expressed in the strong muscular men is happily contrasted by the tenderness and elegant softness conspicuous in the other side piece, where the three Marys are come to visit the empty sepulchre. The angel who is speaking to them, and pointing up to heaven with an expression that explains itself, is a figure of singular beauty, and, with an aspect of great sweetness and benevolence, still retains in his look the native dignity of a superior being.

Under the picture on each side the altar is a large Bible displayed in painting, as opened at those places of scripture which describe the history exhibited in the paintings, and the whole altar-piece is neatly embellished, and the colours so kept down that they do not take off the eye from the principal pictures.

The floor of the chancel is laid with black and white marble, and you approach the altar by steps of the same marble. At the entrance of the chancel
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are iron gates gilt and painted and finely ornamented ; the same are also at the entrance of each aisle of the church.

In the center of the middle and cross aisles is fixed a pillar and an eagle on the top all of brass, about 5 feet high, being the gift of Mr. James Walker, senr. of this parish, pin-maker. — The propriety of which may be thus explained: that “ the eagle, the sacred bird, carrying the book of inspiration, is employed to a purpose more honourable and salutary, than when it was supposed to be carrying thunder through the air for the use of the heathen Jupiter.”

Facing the pulpit is a noble large seat for the magistrates of the city, over which is a canopy of wood supported with four carved pillars. In this place in the year 1466 Mr. William Canynges founded a chapel and chauntry, which was dedicated to the honour of God and St. George. He also founded another to the honour of God and St. Catherine, which is said in a deed to be at the east end of the church, others say at the north porch: but the altar of St. Catherine was at the south end of the cross aisle, where Mr. Canynges by will ordered to be buried.* In the old church of Redcliff were formerly keepers of the porches; the present porches have several apartments with fire places over them, probably for the habitation of the porter, with many of the chaplains and other religious persons belonging to the same.

Over the north porch is a large sexagon room, called formerly the Treasury-house, in which were kept all the archives belonging to the church,† the ascent to which is by a stone stair-case; at half way thereof is an apartment for a lodging-room, having a fire-place therein, which I presume might be the apartment assigned for the keeper of the porch. Over the south porch is a handsome room wainscoted, having a chimney in it, on each side of which are cupboards for keeping the church writings, this being the place where the churchwardens and vestry-men of the parish now meet to transact business.

Under the north end of the great cross aisle is a large room, at the east end of which is a fire-place. There was formerly a communication to this place

* “ In loco quem construi feci in parte australi ejusdem ecclesiæ juxta altare Sanctæ Catharinæ, ubi corpus Johannæ nuper uxoris meæ est sepultum.” — There is a large vault under the monument.

† The trunks are still remaining there, particularly one large one, called in a deed of Mr. Canynge's, “ Cysta ferrata cum sex clavibus vocata Cysta Willielmi Canynges in domo thesauraria ecclesiæ Beatæ Mariæ de Redclive.” This chest furnished Mr. Morgan with many curious parchments relative to Mr. Canynges and the church of Redclive; and many very valuable there is reason to believe were taken away before, and since dispersed into private hands. — This is said by Chatterton to have been the repository of the manuscripts under the name of Rowley.

place out of the north aile of the church, where a door and stone stair-case are stopped up by which they descended into the room. It might probably be the common dining-room for the officers which belonged to the church, but it is now turned into a burying-place. By the will of Belinus Nanfmoen, 20th March, 1416, it appears there were many poor scholars choristers here and several chaplains, to which he was a benefactor, and he gave also certain canon law books to the use of them and the vicar.

At the east end of the north aile are two rooms on the first floor, the first has a chimney in it, over which is a lodging-room with another chimney in that. These apartments might be assigned for the vicar, chauntry priests, or chaplains of the church. This place at present is made use of for keeping the vestments of the vicar, the plate, and other things belonging to the church.

William of Wyrcester, p. 244. 221. 228. 196. 82. gives several particulars relative to Redcliff church and spire as in the year 1480, when he wrote his account.

P. 221. "The tower of the church of Redcliff in length contain $23\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and in breadth 24 feet. The height of the tower contains 120 feet, and the height of the spire as it is now broken off contains 200 feet; and the diameter in the upper part of the fracture contains 16 feet. And it has eight panes (pannels), and every stone in the beginning of the spire contains in thickness 2 feet, and at the top where the cross is placed it contains in thickness 4 inches; and every stone in the working is 8 feet broad, and the breadth of the garland contains 11 feet. The thickness of the walls of the tower at the foundation are 7 feet, and at the height of 120 feet the wall is 5 feet."

P. 196. "The length of the belfry tower in the arch (volta) newly made contains 24 feet from east to west, and 22 feet from north to south. And the base of the square framing of the spire of Redcliff is of eight panels. The first course above the place of the squaring of the spire consists in thickness of stones of 2 feet made of two stones joined together, for it would be hard to reduce one stone of that thickness, and so it continues diminishing to a certain height; and there are four coins (sconci) of stones from one corner of the angle to the next to bind the spire, which spire now stands 100 feet above."

P. 244. "The height of the spire as it stands at this day, although broke off by a mischance from a storm and lightning, is 200 feet, by relation of Norton, master of the church of Redcliff, and the (severee) separation of two windows, one opposite to the other betwixt two pillars, contains 22 feet and in length 16 feet."

P. 120. "The height of the tower of Redcliff contains 300 feet, of which 100 feet have been thrown down by lightning."

On the 1st of April in the 1st year of King Edward 6th. 1547, John Cottrell, Doctor of Laws, vicar-general to Paul Bush, first Bishop of Bristol, sequestered the tenths of this church and certain stipends from several chauntries there to the king's use. See p. 64.

Besides those chauntries there were two of Everard le French, and one of John Burton and two of Robert Cheepe, and one yearly obiit for Nicholas Pyttes, vicar, and John Blamick, vicar, the expence of each being 13s. 4d. on the octaves of Easter.

The following catalogue of some of the ancient furniture of this church in the days of Popish superstition, taken from an original record there, is inserted here as a curiosity.

"A new sepulchre, well gilt with gold, and a cover thereto, delivered 4 July, 1470, by Master William Canynges to the proctors."

"An image of God Almighty ryfing out of the same sepulchre with all the ordinance that longeth thereto," (that is to say) "a lath made of tymbre and iron-work that longeth thereto."

Item, thereto longeth heven made of timbre and stained clothes.

Item, helle made of timbre and iron work with devills the number of 13.

Item, 4 knyghtes armed keeping the sepulchre wyth their wepons in their hands (that is to say) two speers, two axes, with two paves.

Item, 4 pair of angels wings for 4 angels made of timbre and well paynted.

Item, the Fadre, the crown and vyfage, the ball wyth a crosse upon it well gilt with fyne gold.

Item, the Holy Ghost coming out of heven into the sepulchre.

Item, longing to the 4 angels 4 *chevelers.

Amongst these things there were others as curious, viz. the 6th of Edward the 4th. "four handards of St. George and trappyngs for hys horse &c."

Leland calls Redcliff church, "*Ecclesiarum omnium longe pulcherrima*;"—and Camden, "*Ecclesiarum omnium parochialiam (quas unquam vidi) elegantissima*."—"So large is it and the workmanship so exquisite, and the roof so artificially vaulted with stone, and the tower so high, that in my opinion (says he) it goes much beyond all the parish churches in England I have yet seen."

Divine service is performed in this church twice every Sunday and weekly prayers are celebrated every afternoon throughout the year.—Sunday's lecture once in the day is paid for out of the parish stock, and the vestry have the nomination

* It is doubted what these were.

nomination of the lecturer and allow him a salary of 26l. per ann. the present is the Rev. Dr. Camplin. Before the institution of this Sunday's lecture the church used to be shut up one part of the day; and the parishioners attended the service at St. Thomas, which was very inconvenient; and to shut up such a spacious church as Redcliff one part of the day, was no mark of piety or good management, when the church revenues could so well afford to have service performed twice a day: and were some pious benefactor to found an evening's lecture to be delivered by candle-light after prayers in this beautiful and spacious church, such an institution might have very happy effect upon the minds of an audience; good order being preserved and regulations properly enforced by the sexton and his assistants during service. Evening is the season for meditation: the time, the place, the service itself would command attention, and the divine truths then recommended would be received with the greater earnestness and acquire an additional force from the circumstances of time and place. Who can without a religious awe and veneration enter this solemn temple, these mansions of the Deity even in the day time,

Where awful arches make a noonday night,
And the dim windows shed a solemn light?

With how much greater devotion and pleasing dread must the religious man approach the Deity in prayer when every thing around by night would naturally tend to inspire it—the twinkling tapers diffusing their religious light through the gloomy arches, the long sounding ailes and lofty roofs, and shewing to advantage the neat ornaments of such a spacious church cannot but incline the soul to a heavenly meditation and make the heart-affecting service of our church still more affecting—such a scene of things is finely described by Milton in his *Penferoso*, who was no friend to shew in religious services.

“ Let my due feet never fail
To walk the studious cloysters pale,
And love the high embowed roof
With antique pillars massy proof;
And storied windows richly dight
Casting a dim *religious* light:
There let the pealing organ blow
To the full-voic'd quire below,
In service high and anthems clear
As may with sweetness thro' my ear
Dissolve me into extasies,
And bring all heaven before my eyes.”

A A A A 2

Some,

Some, enemies to true religion, with a sneer may call it an imitation of popery, which enjoined the burning of lamps before the shrines of saints in this very church in the time of ignorance and superstition,—but as from this we have happily emerged, the church of England confessedly fitting as Queen among the reformed churches; and there are no shrines and altars to saints here now to tempt the vulgar eye, nor any prayers to be offered to them; nothing to be heard but a pure reasonable service; therefore the objection falls to the ground: reason and common sense may be appealed to, whether service by candle-light sometimes might not tend to prevent nocturnal revels and meetings and keep alive the sense of religion in the mind; so attentive to the usual business of the day, that were not Sunday set apart for other employ, religion would scarce be found among us, I believe in the opinion of most.

But to return from this digression—This church is adorned with a great number of elegant monuments; and some though old have a profusion of carving and Gothic work bestowed upon them.

To begin with the founder's:—At the south end of the great cross aisle is a stately monument erected in memory of Mr. William Cannynges and Joan his wife, whose effigies are lying on an altar tomb in full proportion under a canopy handsomely carved in freestone. On the inside of the statues under the arch of his tomb are the following English inscriptions in a table, and on the front a Latin inscription.

“ Master Wm. Cannynges the richest merchant of the town of Bristow, afterwards chosen five times mayor of the said town for the good of the commonwealth of the same: he was in orders of priesthood seven years and afterwards Dean of Westbury, and dyed the 7th Nov. 1474.* The said William built a college within the said town of Westbury (with his canons) and the said William did maintain by the space of 8 years 800 handycraft men besides carpenters and masons, ev'ry day 100 men. Besides the said William gave King Edward the 4th. 3000 marks for his peace to be had in 2470 tons of shipping.†

These

* His will is dated the 12th of November 1474, he died the 17th of that month. Wm. Bottoner.—His obiit I find was kept on Lammas-Day, the 1st of August 1475, the next year.

† This part of the inscription has given occasion for some weak people to propagate a report much to the prejudice of Mr. Cannyngs' memory; whereas the case was this: Edward the 4th. having his necessities amply supplied by Mr. Cannyngs, he granted him in lieu thereof 2470 tons of shipping free of all impost, as appears by the original instrument in being in the Exchequer.—This explanation was made by one of the Judges, who reprimanded the sexton for abusing the memory of so worthy a citizen in the vulgar story.

These are the names of his ships and their burthens.

	<i>Tons.</i>		<i>Tons.</i>
The Mary Canyngs	- - 400	The Mary Redcliff	- - 500
The Mary and John	- - 900	The Galliot	- - 50
The Katherine	- - 140	The Mary Bat	- - 200
The Little Nicholas	- - 140	The Margaret	- - 200
The Kathrine of Boston	- - 223	A ship of Ireland	- - 100

N. B. This account is from William of Worcester.

No age, no time can wear out well-won fame,
 The stones themselves a stately work doth show,
 From senseless graves ground may we good mens name
 And noble minds by ventring deeds we know :
 A lanthorn clear sets forth a candle light,
 A worthy act declares a worthy wight ;
 The buildings rare, that here you may behold
 To shrine his bones deserves a tomb of gould :
 This famous fabrick, that he here hath done,
 Shines in his sphere, as glorious as the sun :
 What need more words, the future world he fought
 And set the pompe and pride of this at nought :
 Heaven was his aim, let it be still his station
 That leaves such worke for others imitation.

The Latin inscription is this :

Hic inferius tumulatur corpus nobilis, circumspecti, magnæque industriæ, viri, Willi: Canyngs, dudum mercatoris, et quinquies majoris istius villæ; & postea in ordine sacerdotali per septennium instituti, ac Decani de Westbury; qui in ista ecclesia constituit duas Cantarias perpetuas duorum capellanorum, viz. unum in honorem Santa Catharinæ; ac etiam unum clericum stabiliri fecit, & Mariæ Virgini sacravit: & juxta eum, requiescit uxor sua Johanna, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus Amen.

There is also another monument of Mr. Canynge's with his statue well carved in alabaster, lying along in his priest robes as dean of Westbury, with hands lifted up as in the act of devotion, and a large book under his head.

Over Mr. Canynge's tomb are the family arms in proper colours, viz. arg. three moors heads coupé sable wreathed azure and argent, no crest. His obit was yearly celebrated, for which in the year 1475 there is charged in the annual account :

For

For our Master William Canynge's obiit at Lammas-day as the	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
composition specyfyeth - - - - -	2	17	0
Paid for our Master William Cannynge's years mynde - - - - -	2	11	8
At his days requiem - - - - -	0	17	0
For the holy cake for 52 Sundays, wax 5d. per Sunday - - - - -	2	7	8
To Sir Thomas Hawkyfoke for his year's wages - - - - -	6	13	4
To Sir Perse Welles for his year's wages - - - - -	6	13	4

Not far from the monument of Mr. Canynge's is the following inscription in old characters on a flat stone, on which is engraved a large knife and a skimmer: — "Hic jacet Gulielmus Coke in servitiis Willielmi Canynge cujus animæ propitiatur Deus."

The device cut on the stone and his being mentioned as in the service of Mr. Canynges seems to point him out to be William the cook.

In an old bede-roll among the names of persons to be prayed for are, "Joanna Canynges, uxor Willielmi Canynges, et Willielmus filius suus; Willielmus Colas, the servant of Mystre Canynge that gave ii autours of woode to the church of Redclyffe.

There were several altars here, the altar of St. Stephen, St. Blaze, St. Nicholas, St. Catherine, St. George.

William Colas, the other servant of William Canynges, 7 Edward 4th. was buried next St. George's chapel, "who hath yeven and delyvred to All Sowles autour, wythynne the chyrche of owre Ladye of Redclyve yn Bristow, by the handes of Maystre William Canynges, a chalys wyth a paten of sylvre, wayinge xiii ounces and halfe, sylvre parcel guylte, and the name of the said William Colas is wrote upon yt, and hys fygure is portryed upon the foot, besydes the crucyfyxe of the sayde chalyce, and so hys fowle to be praid forre."

Not far from William Coke's stone is another, nearer Canynge's monument: "Hic jacet Joannes Blecker, pandoxator, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus."

This brewer (pandocator) might probably be another servant of Mr. Canynges, for he orders by deed penes me that his obiit should be kept in the chapel of St. Catherine.

Near this is also another, "Hic jacet Richardus Coke et Tibota uxor ejus, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus."

On a stone near Canynge's tomb was the following: "Here lies Thomas Chamber, of this parish, merchant, and his wife Ann. She died 1620, he October, 1647.

When

When I was young in wars I shed my blood,
Both for my queen and for my country's good :
In elder years my care was chief to be
Soldier to him who shed his blood for me."

Philip Baunt, merchant, buried at Redcliff in 1404. In his will he gives to John Caunterbury, chaplain here, "*quendam librum meum de Evangeliiis Anglicè, qui est in custodiâ Joannis Stourton,*" — a proof they had the Gospels in English so early as 1404, though perhaps not in common.

Under the north window of the great cross aisle is a Knight Templar, lying on a plain altar tomb in a coat of mail, with a shield on his left side, and a sword in his right hand, all carved in freestone, probably designed for Robert de Berkeley Lord of Bedminster and Redcliff, a benefactor to this church.

About the middle of the cross aisle was buried Everard le Fraunces. Over him is a plain altar tomb, with his figure in the robes of a magistrate, and formerly the following inscription: "*Hic jacet Everardus le French, qui in hac ecclesiâ duas fundavit cantarias et duas alias in ecclesiâ St. Nicolai, et fuit ter maior hujus villæ cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen. M.CCCL.*"

In the same aisle: "*Hic inferius sub lapide marmoreo sepelitur corpus Thomæ Young, armigeri nuper de villa Bristol, ac filii ac hæredis Thomæ Young unius justiciorum in communi Banco, et Jocosæ uxoris ejus qui quidem Thomas obiit 15 Maii, A. D. 1506, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen.*" With his coat, lozengè vert and or. on a bend G. three ebecks or griffins heads erased or. three G.

Sir G. Young of the county of Devon is descended from this family in Bristol.—Eng. Baronet. vol. iii. p. 334, 339. vol. iv. p. 620.

In the windows were formerly in painted glass the arms of England, of Harrington, Hungerford, Canynges, Cradock, Berkeley, Mede, Sturton, Dyrick, Says, Graunt, Montague, Cheyney, Fulk Fitzwarren, Sir J. Inyn, Rivers, &c.

Against the pillar near Mr. Canynge's tomb is fixed a neat marble monument with the following inscription to the memory of one, who justly deserved the character here given her by her husband: she was taken from him in early life:—"*Eheu! dies atro carbone notanda! Filius et quatuor filiæ in solamen patris (favente Deo) adhuc vivunt valentque 1789. Filius Highamæ in comitatu Somersetenfi est rector.*"

M. S.

Mariæ, charissimæ conjugis
Gulielmi Barrett, chirurgi :
Quæ morum suavitate,

Vitæ

Vitæ simplicitate,
Benignitate animi,
Pietate in Deum eximiâ
Omnes, quibus innotuit, sibi devinxit :
Conjugali quaque virtute inornata
Maritum dulci amoris copulâ
Constrictum tenuit, supremo
Haud citiùs die dissolutâ :
Tabæ pulmonari penitus confecta,
Quam fortitudine Christianâ sustinuit,
In Domino tandem fine gemitu
Placidè obdormivit die 8 Maii 1763,
Ætat. 32.

Filiolum unum cum quatuor filiabus
Sola nunc fælicitatis pignora,
Futuræ spes, marito reliquit,
Qui hoc monumentum amoris ergo
Bene merenti posuit."

At the north end of the same aisle is a monument with the following inscription: — "Near this pillar are deposited the remains of Mrs. Fortune Little, widow of Mr. John Little, late of this parish. She died June 28, 1777, aged 57.

Oh! could this verse her bright example spread,
And teach the living while it prais'd the dead:
Then, reader, should it speak her hope divine,
Not to record her faith, but strengthen thine;
Then should her ev'ry virtue stand confess'd,
Till every virtue kindled in thy breast:
But if thou slight the monitory strain
And she has liv'd to thee at least in vain,
Yet let her death an awful lesson give,
The dying Christian speaks to all that live;
Enough for her, that here her ashes rest
Till God's own plaudit shall her worth attest.

HANNAH MORE."

At the east end of the north aisle is erected a large magnificent altar tomb, curiously carved all over with work in the Gothic style, to the memory of Thomas Mede, Esq; and his wife, whose statues in freestone are lying at length
with

with their coat of arms, S. a chevron ermine between three trefoils flit argent. He was sheriff of Bristol 1452. His country seat was at Fayland, in the parish of Wraxal, in the county of Somerset, then called Mede's Place. — On the outside of his tomb was fixed a plate of brass with an inscription on it, part of which is stolen away and this only remains: "----- predicti Thomæ Mede ac ter majoris istius villæ Bristolliæ, qui obiit 20 die mensis Decembris, Anno Dom. 1475, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen." Under the same tomb lies Philip Mede, Esq; his brother, whose will bears date 11 Janury, 1471, in which he orders his body to be buried at the altar of St. Stephen, in the church of Redcliff, to which he was a benefactor. His wife Isabel and John their son also lie here, their figures being engraved on a brass plate $22\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and 19 broad, which is fixed to the back of the tomb: the inscription on the side is now destroyed. He had been thrice mayor and member of parliament for Bristol 36th Henry 6th. 1460. His daughter Isabella married the fifth Maurice Lord of Berkeley, see p. 256. by whom she had issue three sons, Maurice, Thomas, and James, and one daughter, Ann.

On the ground under this monument was once the following inscription, now obliterated: "Hic jacet Johannes Mede, burgenfis villæ Bristolliæ, qui obiit 17 die mensis Aprilis, A. D. 1496, et juxta eum requiescit Alicia, uxor ejus, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen." Out of the mouths of the two figures in the brass plate above mentioned proceed the following words in a scroll from the man's, "Sancta Trinitas unus Deus miserere nobis," from the woman's, "Pater de cœlis Deus miserere nobis."

In the same aisle are monuments to the memory of "The Rev. Richard Sandford, A. M. who died 6 August, 1724, and of Elizabeth his sister, who died 22 September, 1728."

"Of John Tilly, who died 22 February, 1658, and Elizabeth his wife, who died 7 September, 1660."

"Of Sir William Penn, Knight, born at Bristol 1621, of the Penns of Penns Lodge, in the county of Wilts. He was made captain at 21, rear-admiral of Ireland at 23, vice-admiral of England at 31, and general in the first Dutch wars at 32, whence returning in 1655 he was chosen a parliament-man for Weymouth 1660, was made commissioner of the admiralty and navy, governor of the forts and town of Kingsale, vice-admiral of Munster and a member of that provincial council, and in 1664 was chosen great captain commander under his Royal Highness in that signal and most evidently successful fight against the Dutch fleet. Thus he took leave of the sea, his old element, but continued his other employs till 1669, when through bodily infirmities

infirmities (contracted through the care and fatigue of public affairs) he withdrew, prepared and made for his end, and with a gentle and even gale in much peace arrived and anchored in his last and best port, at Wanstead, in the county of Essex, 16 September, 1670, being then but 49 years of age and 4 months. To whose name and merit his surviving lady erected this remembrance." — Over his monument were 3 long old streamers and some old armour, and on his stone this motto: *Dum Clavum teneam*, with the arms f. arg. on a bar v. 3 balls of the first."

"Of Eliz. Batchelor wife of John Batchelor alderman of this city;—she was daughter of Giles Combes Esq; of Fifehead in Somersetshire, and died 21 Aug. 1683."

In the chancel was a stone with a brass margin let into it, thus inscribed: "*Hic jacet Lodovicus Morris, quondam ballivus villæ Bristolliaë, burgenfis et mercator, qui obiit quarto decimo die mensis Februarii, A. D. 1464, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus, Amen.*"

Near this, "Orate pro animâ Joannis Willy, qui obiit 27 mensis Junii, A. D. 1454, et Agnetis uxoris ejus, quæ obiit 1450." On the stone is a shuttle.

Here are also stones with inscriptions, "To Sir William Lewis, Knight, and alderman, and four virgin daughters: the former died 23 May, 1712, the latter Bridget died 28 February, 1703, aged 18; Mary, the 8 September, 1710, aged 21; Sarah, 10 January, 1710, aged 28; Elizabeth, 26 March, 1712, aged 20 years and 3 months."

"To Martha, wife of Nathaniel Day, Esq; daughter of Mr. Robert Hawkefworth. She died 23 January, 1729."

A monument with inscription "To Edward Durbin, chemist, who died 3 January, 1763, aged 75."

On the floor of the chancel is a large black marble stone with brass curiously laid in and engraved with the figures of a man and woman, with six sons underneath the man and eight daughters under the woman, with the following inscription: "*Hic jacet Johannes Jay quondam vicecomes istius villæ, et Joanna uxor ejus; qui quidem Johannes, obiit die 15 mensis Maii, A. D. 1480, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen.*" This John Jay was a merchant of great eminence, as appears by William of Wyrcester, p. 267. and Johanna was sister to William of Wyrcester.

On the right hand as you ascend the altar is a large flat stone with brass plates curiously inlaid, engraved with the figures of a man and woman with a shield of arms over and under each, G. on a chevron wavy argent, charged with fleurs de lis f. The inscription is this: "*Hic jacet corpus venerabilis viri*

viri Johannis Brook quondam servientis ad legem illustrissimi principis fælicis memoriæ regis Henrici octavi et justiciarii ejusdem regis ad assisas in partibus occidentalibus Angliæ et capitalis seneschali illius honorabilis domûs et monasterii Beatae Mariæ de Glasconiâ in comitatu Somerset, qui quidem Johannes obiit 25 die mensis Decembris Anno Domini milleffimo quingentessimo 25°, et juxta eam requiescit Johanna uxor ejus una filiarum et hæredum Richardi Amenæ, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen."

On the floor a black stone with an inscription in Latin to Sufanna the wife of Sir Robert Yeomans, Bart. and member for the city. She died 20 September, 1680. Resurgam.—Also her sister Elizabeth, wife of William Stafford, of Bradfield, Berks, Esq. She died 20 April, 1671. Per mortem ad vitam. Arms, quarterly, f. a chevron arg. between three spears heads of the second for Yeomans. Azure on a bend or. three mullets G. for Stafford.

In St. Mary's chapel a monument of marble with a Latin inscription to Elizabeth the wife of John Gibb, A. M. prebendary of Bedminster and vicar of this church, daughter of Nathaniel Ingelo, S. T. P. and of Mary the daughter of Richard Vickris, merchant, and mayor of this city. She died 7 October, 1710, aged 43, after a marriage of 6 years, 1 month, and 7 days.

In the same on a very large stone with a figure of the deceased in his judge's robes engraved in a brass plate inlaid is an inscription round the margin on a strip of brass: "Hic jacet Johannes Inyn Miles, capitalis justiciarius domini regis ad placita coram ipso rege tenenda, qui obiit 24 die Marcii, Anno Domini Milleffimo C.C.C.CXXXIX. cujus animæ propitietur Deus, Amen." —

Under the figure are the following verses:

Juste Deus, patiens Judex, miserere Johannis
Inyn, jus faciens Miles fuit ejus in annis:
Urbe recordator fuit hâc Baro Scacarii
Summus, et in banco judex capitalis utroque
Justitiam voluit connexam cum pietate,
Militiam coluit subnixam nobilitate:
Juste Johan. fortis Miles jam propitiatus
Esto, fores mortis sibi claude, remitte reatus.

Underneath his arms, f. or. a fess az. inter three unicorns heads couped arg. within a bordure of the same, quartered with a lion rampant, also two other shields. His country seat was of Bishopsworth, near Filwood, now a farm-house, in which are still to be seen the arms in coloured glass in the windows. His son William had Alice, a daughter, married to John Kekewyck 5 September, 1515, who died at Bishopsworth without issue 20 May, 1529. His daughter

Isabel married John Kenn. His son Christopher 1519 had a daughter Elizabeth, who was married to Lord Paulet, of Hinton St. George, whereby this family's estate at Bishopsworth came to Lord Paulet, who still possesses it.

These are the chief monuments and inscriptions in this church, but the churchyard must not be passed by unnoticed, being spacious, planted with trees, and the walks through it kept very neat: see the plate. There was an elegant cross in the center of it, taken notice of by William of Worcester, p. 211. "*Cemiterium ecclesiæ de Radclyff continet 500 gressus; crux pulcherrima artificiose operata in medio.*" It is now destroyed. Sermons used to be preached from it formerly. Here are some good tombs and inscriptions worthy of notice.

The following is a List of the VICARS.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1207 William ———, chaplain of Redcliff. | 1460 William Sey. |
| Richard de Newbery, vicar. | 1464 ——— Chedworth. |
| 1276 John le Rung, clericus. | 1473 William Chock, younger brother of Sir Richard Chock, of Ashton. |
| 1290 Gerard le Tyllet. | |
| 1327 Robert de Mershton, chaplain. | 1508 Edward Powell, D. D. V. See Wood's Ath. Oxon. vol. i. p. 46. |
| 1338 William de Jatton. | |
| 1342 Ralph de Clive. | |
| 1356 William of Wykeham had the prebend of Bedminster cum Redcliff. | 1534 Henry Williams, presented to it by Cardinal Campeius, 2d Edw. 6. See Wood, vol. i. p. 681. |
| 1374 John French. | |
| 1381 William Draper. | 1550 Thomas Norman. |
| 1389 Henry de Nethenene. | 1555 John Blackston, deprived 1 Eliz. |
| 1391 Nicholas Geill. | 1559 Arthur Saule. |
| 1393 John Lamynton, chaplain. | 1579 Meredith Hamner. |
| Thomas Godefellow, chaplain. | 1585 Samuel Davis. |
| 1399 John Bush, chaplain. | 1623 Thomas Palmer. He published a sermon, entitled, Bristol's Military Garden, preached before the Trained Bands. |
| 1410 William Dudlesburg. | |
| 1429 Joannes Phreas or Freas. Vide Lel. de Script. Brit. p. 466. | |
| 1434 John Bath. | 1636 Giles Thornborough. |
| 1496 Roger Saundey. | 1637 John Carse. |
| 1438 William Peirce or Perry. | 1639 William Noble, ejected. |
| 1446 Nicholas Pittes. | 1639 Matthew Hazard, intruded. |

- 1660 Francis Horton. 1744 Thomas Broughton, the learned
 1670 Humphrey Brent. publisher of the Dictionary of
 1678 Richard Thompson. all Religions, folio, and the
 1685 William Manning. Prospect of Futurity in 8vo.
 1701 John Gibb. He built the large and other tracts.
 vicarage-house at a great ex- 1772 Edmund Spry, A. M. the pre-
 pence. sent vicar in 1788.

This vicarage * is valued in the King's Books at the clear yearly value of 40l. 13s. 8½d. and its tenths are discharged. It is worth to the vicar in voluntary contributions about 100l. per annum, besides surplice fees and gift-fermons, but with St. Thomas and Abbots Leigh all chapels to Bedminster, the whole affords a decent income to the incumbent.

This church had been at different times liberally endowed with large estates for support of the fabric and of divine offices celebrated therein, as well as for charity to the poor, the aged, and infirm of this parish; and by an instrument out of chancery in the beginning of Charles 2d's. reign it appears a little before that time it had lands to the full amount of 400l. per annum, but during the Commonwealth, with so little honesty was the church affairs administered, the feoffees and parish officers granted long leases and sold lands by collusion to each other for little or no consideration, by which the revenue of the church was wasted. One Cecil was an active person in this matter, and is mentioned as highly culpable and ordered to restore several tenements again to the church. The great ravage then committed, and loss of deeds embezzled during that anarchy, rendered it impossible to repair at the Restoration wholly the mischief done by the levelling republicans of those days. Not only the church estates but the structure itself did not escape the ravage; they tore down many of its ornaments and all the lofty pinnacles round the church, which were curiously carved and added much to its external beauty and have not since been rebuilt; while on the inside they stole the brass plates from the monuments; they broke down the fine organ, and getting together the prayer books and the homilies, and even the bibles, with cushions, cassocks, &c. they made a bonfire of them, as the funeral pile of the church: and parading the streets with streamers made of the surplices cut into flags, and tooting upon the organ pipes they marched in triumph through the streets.

It

* According to the Lincoln manuscript Bedminster and its chapels produced 70 marks or 46l. 13s. 4d. the vicar of Bedminster 8 marks, in all 72 marks or 52l. The temporalities of Bedminster paid to the abbot of Whytland 20s. and to the abbot of St. Austin 8l. 15s. in all 9l. 15s.

It is not without great œconomy and good management, the church officers have recovered and preserved what estates now remain, and improved since its revenue.—By the rental the annual ground or reserved rents of the whole, consisting of about 80 several messuages and tenements, amount to about 80l. per ann. and the other charitable benefactions in money &c. to about 39l. 15s. total 119l. 15s. per annum, besides the money arising from the renewal of leases of so many tenements for lives—which have enabled the parish to lay out large sums to repair the church and embellish it with paintings and keep it in constant repair, to pay for additional duty in the service, a lecturer, organist &c.

BENEFACTORS to the Church and Poor of St. Mary Redcliff Parish.

		l.	s.	d.
1594,	Mr. Robert Kitchen alderman, 10s. a quarter for ever,	40	0	0
1632,	Mr. Robert Rogers alderman, 1s. a week for ever,	52	0	0
1635,	Sir Richard Rogers, Knight, 6d. a week for ever,	26	0	0
1639,	Mr. George Harrington alderman, 10s. a quarter for ever,	40	0	0
1639,	Mr. William Pitt merchant, 25l. the profit thereof for ever,	25	0	0
1641,	Mrs. Thomafine Harrington, 1s. a week for ever, -	52	0	0
1642,	Mrs. Mary Stile 10l. the profit thereof for ever, -	10	0	0
1647,	Mrs. Blanch Yeamans 20l. the profit thereof for ever,	20	0	0
1649,	Mrs. Ann Edson 20l. the profit thereof for ever, -	20	0	0
1650,	Mr. George Gibbs brewer, 1s. per week for ever, -	52	0	0
1652,	Mr. Robert Edson dyer, 20l. the profits thereof for ever,	20	0	0
1653,	Mr. Hugh Brown alderman, 54s. yearly for ever, -	54	0	0
1654,	Mr. John Haytor milliner, 6d. a week for ever, -	26	0	0
1661,	Mr. Francis Gleed, sometime sheriff, 10s. a quarter to a poor housholder for ever, - - -	40	0	0
1662,	Mrs. Mary Gibbs gave 30l. the profits thereof to the poor for ever, - - - -	30	0	0
1667,	Mr. Arther Farmer, sometime mayor and alderman of this city, gave unto this parish the interest of 40l. yearly to 6 poor families on All-Saints day, - -	40	0	0
1668,	Mr. Thomas Farmer, Gentleman, gave unto the poor of this parish 50l. the profit for ever, - -	50	0	0
1668,	Mr. Richard Vickris alderman, 52l. yearly for ever in bread,	52	0	0
1670,	William Curtis of London, Esq; born in this parish, gave 50l. the profit thereof to be distributed to the poor on Christmas-day yearly for ever, - -	50	0	0
				Sir

— Sir William Penn, Knight, gave 50l. the profit thereof to		l.	s.	d.
be given to the poor yearly for ever, - - -		50	0	0
— Mrs. Elizabeth Caro gave 5l. the interest to the widow or				
widows of one husband, yearly for ever at Christmas-day,		5	0	0
1675,	Mr. Joseph Bullock in memory of his father Mr. William Bullock of this parish, merchant, gave 70l. the profit thereof to be distributed as followeth, 3l. 4s. to the poor, 15s. to the minister for a sermon upon the 4th of October, and 3s. 4d. to the clerk, and 1s. 8d. to the sexton yearly for ever, - - -	70	0	0
1675,	Mrs. Ann Prewett, late of this parish, widow, gave 20l. the profit thereof to the widow or widows of one husband only, but if there be no such widow in this parish then to some widow in Temple parish, at Christmas yearly for ever, - - -	20	0	0
— Mrs. Mary Boucher and her daughter Mrs. Joan Langton, widows, gave lands for the payment of 10s. a piece to 52 poor widows of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish hath a proportion.				
1678,	Mrs. Sarah Birks of this parish, widow, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be distributed to the widows of one husband only, on Christmas-day yearly for ever, -	20	0	0
1683,	Mrs. Elizabeth Yeamans, widow, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor for ever, - - -	10	0	0
1685,	Mr. Jeremiah Holloway, merchant, gave 20l. the profit thereof in bread to the poor of St. Mary upon Redcliff parish for ever, - - -	20	0	0
1686,	Mr. Samuel Hale, merchant, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor weekly in bread for ever: and also the interest of 230l. towards the placing apprentices of poor children in 7 parishes of this city yearly for ever, of which this parish is one, - - -	240	0	0
1686,	Sir Robert Yeamans, Knight and Bart. and born in this parish in the year 1617, gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish in bread on every Lord's day for ever, - - -	50	0	0
1689,	John Lawford, Esq; sometime mayor and alderman of this city, gave 50l. the profit thereof to the poor of this parish in bread on every Lord's day for ever, -	50	0	0
1690,				

1690,	Mrs. Margret Stokes, widow, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor widows of this parish at Christmas yearly for ever,	l.	s.	d.
		10	0	0
1691,	Mrs. Sufanna Compton, widow, gave 10l. the profit thereof to the poor in bread on Midsummer-day for ever,	10	0	0
1693,	Mr. Dennis Pitt's widow, gave 30l. for the settling of 6 poor boys of this parish apprentice,	30	0	0
1709,	William Whitehead, Esq; of this parish, and alderman of this city, gave 50l. the profit thereof to 10 poor house-keepers of this parish not receiving alms, 5s. to each at Christmas yearly for ever,	50	0	0
1719,	William James of this parish, Gentleman, gave 30l. for the payment of 10s. to the minister for a sermon in the afternoon on the 5th of November in this church, against pride, atheism, popery and profaneness: 17s. more to be distributed in two-penny bread to the poor of this parish after such sermon, 1s. 8d. to the clerk and 1s. 4d. to the sexton for ever,	30	0	0
—	Mrs. Mary Carisbrook of this parish, the sole and virgin daughter of John Carisbrook, Gentleman, gave to several distressed families (not receiving alms) 40s. a year, being confirmed by her father, and Mr. Theophilus Carisbrook her only brother, to be distributed on the 27th of May, being the day of her interment, and on the 24th day of December for ever,	40	0	0
1721,	Mrs. Ann Tilly of Keynsham in the county of Somerset, spinster, gave 20l. the profit thereof to be distributed in bread to the poor of this parish on Christmas Eve yearly for ever,	20	0	0
1724,	Mr. John Newman plumber, gave 26l. the profit in bread to the poor of this parish on Sundays for ever.	26	0	0
1724,	By the voluntery contributions of some of this parish was raised the sum of 20l. and paid into the vestry, the profit thereof to be paid for ringing the bells in memory of the late worthy Edward Colston, Esq; on the second day of November yearly for ever,	20	0	0
1733,	Mr. William Prewett of this parish left 10l. a year to the poor of the Spittle-house out of the several tenements at Cathay for ever,	10	0	0

1734,	Mrs. Mary Smith, widow, of this parish, gave to the poor of this and St. Thomas parishes 30l. per ann. for 86 years, and afterwards the rent of several messuages &c.	600	0	0
1737,	Mr. Edward Dowell, late of this city, gave 100l. the profit thereof to 40 poor housekeepers of this parish on St. Thomas-day yearly for ever,	100	0	0
1738,	Mr. John Jaine of this parish gave 150l. the interest thereof to be given to the poor of this parish in cloathing yearly for ever,	150	0	0
1742,	Mr. John Fisher of this parish, distiller, gave 50l. to buy plate for the use of the altar, and also 100l. the profit thereof to apprentice a poor boy of this parish from the charity-school in Pile-street yearly,	150	0	0
1759,	Robert Sandford, Esq; by will gave 1000l. the interest to 30 poor housekeepers yearly not receiving alms,	1000	0	0
1776,	Mr. James Gully left 50l. the interest towards cloathing the poor boys in Pile-street school,	50	0	0
1777,	Mr. G. Watson gave 20l. the interest to Pile-street school,	20	0	0
—	Mr. — of this parish gave 100l. the interest to Pile-street school,	100	0	0

A LIST of GIFT SERMONS found in the Vestry-room at St. Mary-Redcliff Church.

		l.	s.	d.
January 1st.	Mrs. Ann Edson to the minister	0	10	0
	To the clerk and sexton	0	3	0
March 13th.	Sir Robert Yeamans to the minister	0	5	6
	To the clerk and sexton	0	1	10
Palm-Sunday.	Mr. George Gibbs to the minister	0	13	4
	To the clerk	0	1	4
Good-Friday	to the minister	0	10	0
	To the clerk	0	2	0
Three Sermons at Whitfuntide,	to the minister	1	10	0
	To the clerk	0	3	4
Trinity-Sunday	to the minister by agreement, the gift of Tho. Ciffill,	0	10	0
October 4th.	Mr. Joseph Bullock to the minister	0	15	0
	To the clerk	0	3	4
	To the sexton	0	1	8

C e c c

November

November 5th. Mr. William James to the minister	l.	s.	d.
To the clerk	0	10	0
To the sexton	0	1	8
Christmas-day and Easter-Sunday the vestry to the minister	2	10	0

About the year 1207 Lord Robert de Berkely granted to this church at the request of William the chaplain, all that his fountain of water from a place called Hugewell (beyond Lower Knowle), to have a perpetual conveyance in pipes through his lands to a convenient place for its reception, where it was ever to remain for the use of the church and parish and the ministers thereof, from which reservoir the said lord granted a pipe an inch wide to convey part of the water to the hospital of St. John the Baptist for the use of the master and friers there. The brethren of this hospital had an ancient chapel contiguous to the west end of the church dedicated to the Holy Spirit.

This hospital of St. John consisted of brothers and sisters of the order of St. Augustin, and in the little red book in the chamber of Bristol, p. 199, Johannes "Farceyn alias Farcey is said to be the founder of this hospital or house of St. John the Baptist in Redcliffe-putte."—It became in time very well endowed, and had many tenements in Bristol as well as estates in the country belonging to it.—It was first under the government and patronage of the Bishop of Bath and Wells; but for sometime before the dissolution the mayor and commonalty of Bristol are called the true patrons of it.—It was situated at the bottom of Redcliff-Hill, and extended from Redcliff-Pitt forwards to the Avon backwards—no traces of it at present remain except a lane called St. Joänn's-lane there may seem to point it out—houses are now built on the site of it. The following is the engagement each member made on his admission into this hospital.

Ego N. P. promitto continenter vivere, et sine proprio juxta regulam & observantiam in Domo five Hospitale Sancti Johannis Baptistæ Bristollia antiquitus observatam, & consuetam; profiteorq; ordinem regularem Sancti Augustini juxta instituta ejusdem Domûs five hospitalis—neonon me premissa fideliter observaturum astringo per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium manu meâ propriâ hic me subscribo.

Frienborough manor now called Barrow Hill Farm, in the parish of Farmborough, Somerset, belonged to this hospital of St. John, and was granted by Henry the 8th. to Dr. George Owen, the 29th of April the 36th of Henry the 8th. who sold it to J. Bush of Dulton, Wilts, Esq; the 3d of June the 38th of Henry the 8th.—In 1664 it was sold by Sir Hugh Smyth of Long-Ashton, together

together with Compton-Dando, to — Popham, Esq; in which family it now remains.

By a deed, the original in Bishop Ralph's register in the church of Wells, f. 324, it appears that frier John de Monington prior of St. John's hospital, wishing to be released from the care of said hospital, having resigned it into the Bishop's hands, the Bishop allotted to him one chamber therein, and the manor of Bishopsworth and its appurtenances for his support, with 9 oxen, with plow and wain and the rest of the apparatus of the said manor for his life. Dated at Chew 1348, 19th year of the Bishop's consecration.

This hospital was well endowed with lands which are mentioned in old deeds, particularly in those belonging to the Gaunts.—The following is a list of some of the principals (or masters) of the hospital of St. John the Baptist without Redcliff-Gate, who were chosen at first by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, afterwards by themselves and recommended by the mayor and commonalty of Bristol the patrons, who presented them to the Bishop for institution and induction before their admission—they took the oath aforementioned in the presence of the patron.

1261, Brother Thomas.

1292, Edmund dieto le Thyelare.

1343, John de Monigton master the 29th of July the 17th of Edward the 3d. he resigned 1348.

Brother Lawrence mentioned in Gaunts deed p. 62.

1383, William Topefleye master.

1430, Nicholas Sterr.

1442, John Hall, instituted at the presentation of Clement Bagot, mayor of Bristol, and the commonalty; this hospital was by its foundation collegiate, but there being now but one brother in the said college not 22 years old, therefore for want of brethren it ceased to be a college.

1467, William Prowe, at the presentation of William Canynges mayor; he left the rectory of Wraxal for this.

1504, Richard Collins S. T. P. having a dispensation from the apostolic see to hold any benefice, was instituted and inducted to the rectory of St. Stephen the 16th of March 1504.

1542, Richard Bromefield surrendered this house &c. to King Henry the 8th's. commissioners the 7th of March in the 35th of that King's reign, after above 364 years possession by the friers,—it was granted to Dr. G. Owen.

In 1306 the Bishop of Bath and Wells appropriated the rectory of Backwell *magistro et fratribus hospitalis St. Johannis Bristoliæ* (ex lamentabili querelâ) that they were starving, &c.

In the year 1383 a grant was made by the master and friers to the proctors of the fraternity of the Holy Ghost there of the use of their chapel, dedicated to the Holy Ghost, in the churchyard of St. Mary de Redeclyve, for the term of fifty years. This grant was made at the very time Redcliff church was finishing by William Canynges the elder, and probably this fraternity used to resort to the church of Redcliff, and had a chapel there to their use, but were now obliged to apply to the house of St. John for the use of their chapel in the churchyard.

This chapel of the Holy Ghost in the churchyard of St. Mary Redcliff, having belonged to the master and friers of the house or hospital of St. John the Baptist without Redcliff-gate for many ages was also at the surrender of the said hospital, &c. taken into the king's hands. Leland says, "It was a paroche before the building of Redcliff great new church," which seems to be mere conjecture.

In the year 1571 Queen Elizabeth gave the said chapel by her royal grant to the parishioners of St. Mary Redcliff, for a free grammar and writing-school, as appears by her deed.

This chapel was in length from east to west 56 feet, and in breadth from north to south 26 feet. Being converted to the use of a public school, it has had some benefactors, and at present it has the following endowments:

Doctor George Owen, physician to King Henry 8th. by indenture dated the 2d of May, 1552, obliged the mayor, burgeses, and commonalty of Bristol annually to pay for ever 4l. to the master of this school.

John Whitson, Esq; by his last will dated the 27th of March, 1627, appointed the mayor, burgeses, and commonalty of Bristol and their successors for ever in trust, that they pay a chief rent of 8l. 10s. 6d. and three bushels and a half of wheat and three bushels of rye yearly for ever, out of his manor of Chew Magna, to the master of the free grammar school at or near Redcliff church in Bristol.

This chapel as it stood so near the church of Redcliff as to hide in some measure the western view of it, was in the year 1766 entirely taken down, and in the wall under the west window of the chapel was found a stone coffin with a figure carved on the lid, and under it, "Johannes Lamyngton." * On opening

* John Lamyngton is mentioned among the chaplains of Redcliff church for the year 1393, so that Lamyngton's Lady's chamber might be the name of this building before the fraternity of the Holy Ghost gave it the name of St. Sprite's chapel. See p. 568.

ing it the shape of the whole human body, or rather of its solid parts, was to be seen preserved in the natural position, but on being touched fell all into dust. The school is still continued in St. Mary's chapel at the east end of Redcliff church, without any additional endowment.

Beyond St. Mary's or Redcliff-hill near Bright-Bow † was of old the hospital of St. Catherine, in the parish of Bedminster, which now joins to Bristol and is a parish of large extent. The church of Bedminster is very ancient, and a vicarage formerly belonging to the abbey of Whytland, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and is mother church to Redcliff and St. Thomas, which with Abbots Leigh are chapels of ease to it. The hospital of St. Catherine was in Bedminster where now a glass-house is built: some arch windows there still point out its site, and the fields behind it are called Catherine Meads to this day. It was endowed with them and other lands in Ashton. Tanner's *Notitia Monastica* by Nasmith refers to deeds concerning it. The following is William of Worcester's account, p. 294. — "*Longitudo navis ecclesiæ, &c.* The length of the nave of the church of St. Catherine, called elsewhere the Free Chapel, near Bristol, contains 16 yards, its breadth contains $7\frac{1}{2}$ yards; the length of the chancel 9 yards, its breadth $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards. 1290, Lord Robert Barkle, the founder and patron of the hospital of St. Catherine, who died May 3. Lord Thomas de Barkle, Knight, brother of the said Robert, who gave lands and tenements in Byshopsworth and confirmed the said foundation made by the same Robert. Sir Adam de Heyron, Knight, lord of the village of Ashton, Thomas Heyron his predecessor, who gave lands to it; Alexander de Alneto, his ancestors and successors; William Lyons, his ancestors and successors; William Comyn, of Bristol; Richard Dyer; Julian Sufe; John the son of the goldsmith; Christian Roo; John Stryglyng; Sir John Thorp, priest." — These were benefactors to this hospital. He mentions this hospital also under the following name: "*Hospitalis domus in ecclesia Sanctæ Catherinæ ubi magister Henricus Abyngdon musicus de capella regis est magister.*" The said Abyngdon was master of St. Catherine's hospital in the year 1465.

In some old court rolls, dated the 1st of Richard 2d. at Ayshton Merryotts, in possession of Sir John Hugh Smyth, Bart. it appears that the hospital of St. Catherine was exempted from suit and service at that court, by a charter of Alexander de Alneto then produced, by which lands in Ashton near the church and opposite Clevedon were granted by him to Robert the master and the brethren

† Also called Brightene-bridge from Brightic, who probably first made a bridge there, for the better communication between Bedminster and Bristol.

thren and sisters of that hospital in free alms," &c. This Alexander de Alneto (of the Alder Grove) was lord of the manor of Ashton and a great man in his time; and at the end of a manuscript entitled, *Liber Ruber Bathoniæ*, in the possession of Lord Weymouth at Longleat, written in 1428, is the following epitaph in a hand-writing different from the manuscript in the year 1582.

"Hic jacet Alexander de Alneto et Erneb'orea uxor ejus, et Julius de Alneto filius eorum et Lucia de Mariscis filia eorum et Jordanus de Mariscis filius ejusdem Luciae, et Willielmus de Mariscis filius ejusdem Jordani.—N. B. Dedit Alexander ecclesiae petri et monachis Bathoniæ Manerium de Chamely anno 1153, reg. Steph. ulti.

To this is subjoined the following note by the writer: "Est istud epitaphium, &c.—This epitaph was carved at the right of the entrance of the ruinous church formerly dedicated to Minerva, to be seen in that place by the curious, December 7, 1582, in the city of Bath."

In 1349 Ralph Bishop of Bath and Wells admitted Walter de Estham priest to the house or hospital of St. Catherine near Bristol, at the presentation of Lord Thomas de Berkeley, patron.

1343, John de Kynenton, 29th October, presented.

1357, 4th December, John de Eggesworth. The bishop received his profession following: "Ego Johannes Eggesworth, &c. i. e. I John Eggesworth promise perpetual observance of good morals, chastity, all denial of property, which I will keep from my soul from this time according to the rule of the hospital of St. Catherine near Bristol, in the diocese of Bath and Wells, which I henceforth profess as ordained by the holy fathers, as much as is consistent with the said rule, or hereafter shall be consistent for me to observe, and I will lead my life according to regular discipline." At the same time he swore obedience to his diocesan Ralph Bishop of Bath and Wells. *Regist. Radulph. f. 328.*

In 1375, Richard Bromdon by will gave 20s. to maintain the causey at Brightence-Boughe and the house or convent of St. Catherine near Bristol, called also in *Dugd. Baron. p. 358.* "St. Catherine Pulle near Bristol," to which Lord Berkeley gave lands in Ashton, Portbury, and Bedminster.

Richard Waldgrave being master or custos of this hospital, 1553, an agreement was made that the image of the holy St. Catherine, fixed up in the front house between the causey and the barton of the said hospital, should be kept clean and in repair. There is a long poem of the Life of St. Catherine, and some good verses in it, in the *Lib. Rub. Bathon. penes Lord Weymouth.*

The

The chapel of St. Catherine was valued at the dissolution at 21l. 15s. 4d. whereof rents resolute yearly were 5s. 4d. de claro 21l. 10s. At its being fold, 2 Edward 6th. it was certified to have a chalice of silver, 8 ounces et dimid. ornaments appraised at 4s. 6d. bell metal 101 lb. that William Clark was then master of St. Catherine's hospital, who assigned only three cottages for the poor to live in, but no maintenance. The priest before him was bound to say mass thrice a week. It hence appears this house went gradually to decay, the friers by degrees deserting it, probably the case of many other religious houses.

Besides these hospitals in the parish of Redcliff, there is one just without Temple-gate called "Rogers's Magdalens of Nunney." Falling to decay, it was rebuilt. It affords a dwelling for eight women and as many men. November 17, 1613, Mr. Rice Thomas, parson of Norton Malreward, in the county of Somerset, left them 20s. per annum.

There is also an almshouse on the south side of Redcliff-hill, founded by Mr. Canynges, for fourteen persons to inhabit.

On the north side of Pile-street in 1739 was founded a free-school for boys, by the joint contributions of many well-disposed inhabitants of this parish, which has received the following endowments, and those p. 393, before :

1734, Edward Colston, Esq;	-	-	-	£ 20	0	0	per ann.
Matthew Worgan gave in money	-	-	-	21	0	0	
1742, John Fisher, gentleman, ditto, the interest to ap-							
prentice out a poor boy	-	-	-	100	0	0	
1749, Giles Malpas built the school-house	-	-	-	120	0	0	
John Macie, Esq; gave	-	-	-	50	0	0	
Mrs. Gratian Kington	-	-	-	50	0	0	

On Redcliff-hill is, 1787, a house built for a school for girls, supported by voluntary contributions.

In Redcliff churchyard is an almshouse for twelve widows, called the House of Mercy, built and endowed 1784 by the late Mr. William Fry, who has appointed feoffees for the management of this charity, where the widows have each a neat room, lodging, and maintenance.

The following Interlude is among the most early communications of Chatterton to Mr. Barrett, and as it has an immediate relation to the church of Redcliff, is here printed verbatim et literatim from Chatterton's own writing, and submitted to the judgment of the reader:

An ENTYRLUDE, plaied bie the Carmelyte Freeres at Mastre Canynges hys greete howse, before Mastre Canynges and Byshoppe ¹ Carpenterre, on dedicatyng the chyrche of *Oure Ladie of Reddelesfe*, hight

THE PARLYAMENTE OF SPRYTES.

Wroten bie T. Rowleie and J. ² Ifcam.

Entroducyon bie Queene Mabbe. ——— (Bie Ifcamme.)

WHAN from the erthe the sonnes ³ hulftred,
Than from the flouretts ⁴ straughte with dewe;
Mie leege menne makes yee ⁵ awhaped,
And wythes theyre ⁶ wytchencref doe.
Then ryse the sprytes ⁷ ugsome and ⁸ rou,
And take theyre walke the ⁹ letten throwe:
Than do the sprytes of valourous menne,
Agleeme along the ¹⁰ barbed halle;
Pleasaunte the ¹¹ moltrynge banners kenné,
Or sytte arounde yn honourde stalle —
Oure sprytes ¹² atourne theyr ¹³ eyne to nyghte,
And looke on Canynge his chyrche bryghte.

III

¹ John Carpenter, bishop of Worcester, who, in conjunction with Mr. Canynge, founded the abbey at Westbury. ² John Ifcam, according to Rowley, was a canon of the monastery of Saint Augustine in Bristol. He wrote a dramatic piece called "The Pleasaunt Dyscorfes of Lamyngeton;" also at the desire of Mr. Canynge (Rowley being then collecting of drawings for Mr. Canynge) he translated a Latin piece called Miles Brystolli into English metre. The place of his birth is not known. ³ Hidden. ⁴ Stretched. I think this line is borrowed from a much better one of Rowley's, viz. "Like kynges cuppes brasseyng wyth the mornyng dew." The reason why I think Ifcam guilty of the plagiarism is, that the Songe to Ella, from whence the above line is taken, was wrote when Rowley was in London collecting of drawings for Mr. Canynge to build the church, and Ifcam wrote the above little before the finishing of the church. ⁵ Astonished. ⁶ Witchcraft. ⁷ Terrible. ⁸ Ugly. ⁹ This is a word peculiar to the West, and signifies a churchyard. ¹⁰ Hung with banners or trophies. ¹¹ Mouldering. ¹² Turn. ¹³ Eyes.

In sothe yn alle mie ¹⁴bismarde rounde,
Troolie the thynges muste be ¹⁵bewryen :
Inne stone or woden worke ne founde,
Nete so ¹⁶bielecoyle to myne eyne,
As ys goode Canynge hys chyrche of stone —
Whych ¹⁷blatauntlie wylle shewe his prayse alone.

To Johannes Carpenterre Byshoppe of Worcesterre. ——— (Bie Rowleie.)

To you goode Byshoppe, I addrefs mie saie,
To you who honoureth the clothe you weare ;
Lyke pretious ¹⁸bighes ynne golde of beste allaie
Echone dothe make the other seeme more fayre :
¹⁹Other than you where coulde a manne be founde
So fytted to make a place bee holie grounde.

The sainctes ynne stone so netelie ²⁰carvelled,
Theie ²¹scantlie are whatte theie enseme to bee ;
Bie fervente praier of yours myghte rear theyre heade,
Ande chaunte owte masses to oure Vyrgyne —

D D D D

Was

¹⁴ Curious. ¹⁵ Bewryen, declared or made known. ¹⁶ Well pleasing or welcome.
¹⁷ Loudly. ¹⁸ Jewels. ¹⁹ Carpenter dedicated the church as appears by the following poem, wrote by Rowley :

Soone as bryght sonne alonge the skyne, han sente hys ruddie lyghte ;
And fayryes hyd ynne Oslyppe cuppes, tulle wysh'd approche of nyghte —
The mattyn belle wyth shryllie founde, reeckode throwe the ayre ;
A troop of holie freeres dyd, for Jesus masse prepare —
Arounde the highe unfaynted chyrche, wythe holie relyques wente ;
And every door and poste aboute wythe godlie thynges besprente.
Then Carpenter yn scarlette dreste, and mytred holylie ;
From Mastre Canynge hys greate howse, wyth rosarie dyd hie —
Before hym wente a throng of freeres who dyd the masse songe synge,
Behynde hym Mastre Canynge came, tryckd lyke a barbed kynge,
And then a rowe of holie freeres, who dyd the mass songe found.
The procurators and chyrche reeves next prest upon the ground,
And when unto the chyrche theye came a holie masse was fange,
So lowdlie was theyr swotie voyce, the heven so hie it range.
Then Carpenter dyd purysie the chyrche to Godde for aie,
Wythe holie masses and good psalmes whyche hee dyd thereyn saie.
Then was a sermon preeched soon bie Carpynterre holie,
And after that another one ypreechen was bie mee :
Then alle dyd goe to Canynges house an Enterlude to playe,
And drynk hys wyne and ale so goode, and praie for him for aie.

²⁰ Carved. ²¹ Scarcely.

Was everie prelate lyke a Carpenterre,
The chyrche woulde ne blufhe at a Wyncheſterre.

Learned as Beauclerke, as the confeſſour
Holie ynne lyfe, lyke Canynge charitable,
Buſie in holie chyrche as Vavaſour ;
Slacke yn thynges evylle, yn alle goode thynges ſtable,
Honeſt as Saxonneſ was, from whence thou'rt ſprunge ;
Tho boddie weak thie ſoule for ever younge.

Thou knoweſt welle thie conſciene free from ſteyne,
²² Thie ſoule her rode no fable batements have ;
²³ Yclenchde oer wythe vyrtues beſte adaygne,
A daie ²⁴ aeterne thie mynde does aie ²⁵ adave.
Ne ſpoyled widdowes, orphyans dyſtreſte,
Ne ſtarvvyng preeſtes ²⁶ ycraſe thie nyghtlie reſte.

Here then to thee let me for one and alle
Give lawde to Carpenterre and commendatyon,
For hys grerte vyrtues but alas ! too ſmalle
Is mie poore ſkylle to ſhewe you hys juſte ¹ blatyon,
Or to blaze forthe hys publicke goode alone,
And alle hys pryvate goode to Godde and hym ys knowne.

Spryle of Nymrodde ſpeaketh. ——— (Bie Iſcamme.)

Soon as the morne but newlie wake,
Spyed Nyghte ² yſtorven lye ;
On herre corſe dyd dew droppes ſhake,
Then fore the ſonne upgotten was I.
The rampynge lyon, felle tygere,
The bocke that ſkyppeſ from place to place,
The ³ olyphaunt and ⁴ rhynocere,
Before mee throughe the greene woode I dyd chace.

Nymrodde

²² Rode, complection. I take the meaning of this line to be, " The complection of thy ſoul is free from the black marks of ſin." ²³ Covered. ²⁴ Eternal. ²⁵ Enjoy. ²⁶ To break. ¹ Blation, praiſe. ² Dead. ³ Elephant. So an ancient anonymous author :

The olyphaunt of beaſtes is

The wiſeſt I wiſ,

For hee alwaie dothe eat

Lyttle ſtore of meat.

⁴ Rhinoceros.

Nymrodde as scryptures hyght mie name,
 Baalle as ⁵ jetted stories saie;
 For rearynge Babelle of greete fame,
 Mie name and ⁶ renome shalle lyven for aie;
 But here I spie a fyner rearynge,
 Genst whych the clowdes dothe not fyghte,
 Onne whyche the starres doe sytte to appearynge;
 Weeke menne thynke ytte reache the kyngdom of lyghte.
 O where ys the manne that buylded the fame,
⁷ Dyspendyng worldlie store so welle;
 Fayn woulde I chaunge wyth hym mie name,
 And stande ynne hys chaunce ne to goe to helle.

Spryles of Assyrians syngeth.

Whan toe theyre caves aeterne ⁸ abeste,
 The waters ne moe ⁹ han dystreste,
 The worlde so large;
 Butte dyde dyscharge
 Themselves ynto theyre bedde of reste.

Then menne ¹⁰ besprenged alle abroad,
 Ne moe dyde worshyppe the true Godde;
 But dyd create
 Hie temples great
 Unto the ymage of Nymrodde.

But nowe the Worde of Godde is come,
 Borne of maide Marie toe brynge home
 Mankynde hys shepe,
 Theme for to keepe
 In the folde of hys heavenlie kyngdome.

Thys chyrche whyche Canynge he dyd reer,
 To bee ¹¹ dispente in prayse and prayer,
 Mennes foules to save,
 From ¹² vowryng grave,
 Ande puryfye them ¹³ heaven were.

D D D D 2

Spryles

⁵ Devised or faigned.
 humbled or brought down.

⁶ Renown.

⁷ Expendyng.

⁸ Abeste, according to Rowley,

"And Rowleie saies "thie pryde wylle be abeste."

Entroductyon to the Entyrlude of the Apostate.

⁹ Preterite of have.

¹⁰ Scattered.

¹¹ Dispente, used.

¹² Devouring.

¹³ Heaven-ward, so Rowley.

Sprytes of ^a *Elle*, ^b *Bythrycke*, *Fytz-hardynge*, *Frampton*, *Gauntes*, *Segowen*,
Lanyngeton, *Knyghtes Templars*, and *Byrtonne*. ——— (*Bie Rowleie*.)

Spryte of Bythrycke speaketh.

Elle, thie Brystowe is thie onlie care,
Thou arte lyke dragonne ^c vyllant of yts gode;
Ne lovynges dames toe kynde moe love can bear,
Ne Lombardes over golde moe vyllaunt broode.

Spryte of Elle speeketh.

^d Swythyn, yee sprytes forsake the ^e bollen floude,
And ^f browke a fygthe wyth mee, a fygthe enfyne;
Welle have I vended myne for Danyshe bloude,
Syth thys greete structure greete mie ^g whaped eyne.
Yee that have buylden on the Radcleepe fyde,
Tourne there youre eyne and see your workes outvyde.

Spryte of Bythrycke speeketh.

What wondrous monumente! what pyle ys thys!
That byndes in wonders chayne ^h entendemente!
That doth aloof the ayrie skyen kyfs,
And seemeth mountaynes joynd bie cemente,
From Godde hys greete and wondrous storehouse sente,
Fulle welle myne eyne ⁱ arede ytte canne ne bee,
That manne coude reare of thylke agreeete extente,
A chyrche so ^j baufyn fetyve as wee see:
The ^k flemed cloudes disparted from it flie,
Twyll bee, I wis, to alle eternytye.

Elle's spryte speeketh.

Were I once moe caste yn a mortalle frame,
To heare the chauntrie songe founde ynne myne eare,
To heare the masses to owre holie dame,
To viewe the crosse yles and the arches fayre.

Throughe

“ Not goulde or bighes wyll brynge thee heaven were
Ne kyne or mylkie flockes upon the playne,
Ne mannours ryche nor banners brave and fayre,
Ne wise the sweetest of the erthlie trayne.

Entroducyon to the Enterlude of the Apostate.”

^a Keeper of Bristol castle in the time of the Saxons. ^b An Anglo-Saxon, who in William the Conqueror's time had Bristol. ^c Vigilant. ^d Swythyn, quickly. ^e Swelled. ^f Enjoy. ^g Whaped, amazed. ^h Understanding. ⁱ Conceive. ^j Elegantly large. ^k Frighted.

Throughe the halfe hulfred sylver twynklynge glare
 Of yon bryghte moone in foggie mantles dresse,
 I must contente the buyldyng to ^l aspere,
 Whylste ^m ishad cloudes the ⁿ hallie syghte arreste.
 Tyll as the nyghtes growe ^o wayle I flie the lyghte,
 O were I manne agen to see the syghte.
 There fytt the canons; clothe of fable hue
 Adorne the boddies of them everie one;
 The chaunters whyte with scarfes of woden blewe,
 And crymson ^p chappeaus for them toe put onne,
 Wythe golden tassyls glyttrynge ynne the funne;
 The dames ynne kyrtles alle of Lyncolne greene,
 And knotted shoone pykes of brave coloures done:
 A fyner syghte yn sothe was never seen.

Byrtonnes spryde speaketh.

Inne tyltes and turnies was mie dear delyghte,
 For manne and Godde hys warfare han renome;
 At everyche tyltynge yarde mie name was hyghte,
 I beare the belle awaie whereer I come.
 Of Redclifte chyrche the buyldyng newe I done,
 And dyd fulle manie holie place endowe,
 Of Maries houle made the foundacyon,
 And gave a threescore markes to Johnes hys toe.
 Then clos'd myne eyne on erthe to ope no moe,
 Whylst six moneths mynde upon mie grave was doe.
 Full gladde am I mie chyrche was ^q pyghten down,
 Syth thys brave structure doth agreeete myne eye.
 Thys ^r geason buyldyng ^s limedst of the towne,
 Like to the donours soule, shalle never die;
 But if percase Tyme, of hys dyre envie,
 Shalle beate ytte to rude walles and ^t throokes of stone;
 The ^v faytour traveller that passes bie
 Wylle see yttes ^w royend auntyaunte splendoure shewne
 Inne the ^x crafte arches and the carvellynge,
 And pyllars theyre greene heades to heaven rearynge.

Spryde

^l To view. ^m Broken. ⁿ Well-pleasing, also holy. ^o Old. ^p Chappeaus, hats
 or caps of estates. ^q Pyghten, pulled down. ^r Rare. ^s Most noble. ^t Heaps.
^v Wandering. ^w Ruin'd. ^x Broken, old.

Spryte of y Segowen speeketh.

⁊ Bestoykynge golde was once myne onlie toie,
 Wyth ytte mie soule wythynne the coffer laie;
 Itte dyd the mastrie of mie lyfe emploie,
 Bie nyghte mie ^a leman, and mie ^b jubbe bie daye.
 Once as I dosynge yn the wytch howre laie,
 Thynkynge howe to ^c benym the orphyans breadde,
 And from the ^d redeles take theyre goodes awaie,
 I from the skien heard a voyce, which said,
 Thou sleepest, but loe Sathan is awake;
 Some deede thats holie doe, or hee thie soule wylle take.
 I fwythyn was ^e upryft wyth feere ^f astounde;
 Methoughte yn ^g merke was plaien devylles felle:
 Strayte dyd I nomber twentie aves rounde,
 Thoughten full soone for to go to helle.
 In the morne mie case to a goode preefte dyd telle,
 Who dyd ^h areede mee to ybuild that daie
 The chyrche of Thomas, thenne to pieces felle.
 Mie heart ⁱ dispaned into heaven laie:
 Soon was the fylver to the workmenne given, —
 Twas beste ^k astowde a ^l karynte gave to Heavne.
 But welle, I wote, thie causalles were not foe,
 Twas love of Godde that sette thee on the rearynge
 Of this fayre chyrche, O Canynge, for to doe
 Thys ^m lymed buyldynge of so fyne appearynge:
 Thys chyrch owre lesser buyldynge all owt-darynge,
 Lyke to the modne wythe starres of lyttle lyghte;
 And after tymes the ⁿ feetyve pyle reverynge,
 The prynce of chyrches buylders thee shall hyghte;
 Greet was the cause, but greeter was the effeete —
 So alle wyll saie who doe thys place prospect.

Spryte of Fytz Hardyng speeketh.

From royal parentes dyd I have retaynyng,
 The redde hayrde Dane confeste to be mie fyre;

The

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| [⁊] Aullfurer, a native of Lombardy. | [⁂] Deceiving. | ^a Lemman, whore. | ^b Bottle. |
| [⁃] To take away. | ^d Redeles, helpless. | ^e Risen up. | ^f Astonished. |
| ^h Counfel. | ⁱ expanded. | ^k Bestow'd. | ^l A loan. |
| | ^m Noble. | ⁿ Handsome or elegant. | |

The Dane who often throwe thys kyngdom draynyng,
 Would mark theyre waie athrowgh wythe bloude and fyre.
 As stopped ryvers alwaies ryse moe hygher,
 And rammed stones bie opposures stronger bee;
 So thie whan vanquyshed dyd prove moe dyre,
 And for one ° peysan theie dyd threescore flee.
 From them of Denmarques royalle bloude came I,
 Welle myghte I boaste of mie gentylytie;
 The pypes maie founde and bubble forthe mie name,
 And tellen what on Radclefte fyde I dyd:
 Trinytie Colledge ne agrutche mie fame,
 The fayrest place in Brystowe ybuylded.
 The royalle bloude that thorow mie vaynes flydde
 Dyd tyncte mie harte wythe manie a noble thoughte;
 Lyke to mie mynde the mynster yreared,
 Wythe noble carvel workmanshype was wroughte.
 Hie at the ^p deys, lyke to a kyng on's throne,
 Dyd I take place and was myself alone.
 But thou, the buylder of this ^a swotie place,
 Where alle the faynctes in sweete ajunctyon stande,
 A verie heaven for yttes fetyve grace,
 The glorie and the wonder of the lande,
 That shewes the buylders mynde and fourmers hande,
 To bee the beste thatte on erthe remaynes;
 At once for wonder and delyghte commaunde,
 Shewyng howe muche hee of the godde reteynes.
 Canyng the great, the charytable, and good,
 Noble as kynges if not of kyngelie bloude.

Spryle of Framptone speeketh.

Brystowe shall speeke mie name, and Radclefte toe,
 For here mie deedes were goddelye everychone;
 As Owdens ^r mynster bie the gate wylle shewe,
 And Johnes at Brystowe what mie workes han done.
 Befydes ^s anere howse that I han begunne;
 Butte myne comparde to thyssen ys a ^t groffe:

Nete

• A countryman, also a foot soldier. ^p First table in a monastery, where the superior sat.
^a Sweet, or delighting. ^r monastery. • Another. ^t A laughing-stock.

Nete to bee mencioned or looked upon,
 A verie ^v punellstre or verie scoffe;
 Canynge, thie name shall lyven be for aie,
 Thie name ne wyth the chyrche shalle waste awaie.

Spryte of Gaunts speeketh.

I dyd fulle manie reparatyons give,
 And the Bonne Hommes dyd fulle ryche endowe;
 As-tourynge to mie Godde on erthe dyd lyve,
 So alle the Brystowe chronycles wylle shewe.
 Butte alle mie deedes wylle bee as nothyng now,
 Sythe Canynge have thys buyldynge fynished,
 Whych seemeth to be the pryde of Brystowe,
 And bie ne buyldeyng to bee overmatched:
 Whyche aie shalle laste and bee the prayse of alle,
 And onlie in the wrecke of nature falle.

A Knyghte Templars spryte speeketh.

In hallie lande where Sarafins defyle
 The grounde whereon oure Savyour dyd goe,
 And Chryste hys temple make to ^w moschyas vyle,
 Wordies of despyte genst oure Savyour throwe.
 There twas that we dyd owre warfarage doe,
 Guardynge the pylgryms of the Chrystyan ^x faie;
 And dyd owre holie armes in bloude embrue,
 Movynge lyke thonder boutes yn drear arraie.
 Owre strokes lyke ^y levyn tareynge the tall tree
 Owre Godde owre arme wyth lethalle force dyd ^z dree.
^a Maint tenures fayre, ande mannoures of greete welthe,
 Greene woodes, and brook lettes runnyng throughe the lee,
 Dyd menne us gyve for theyre deare soule her helthe,
 Gave erthlie ryches for goodes heavenlie.
 Nee dyd we lette oure ryches ^b untyle bee,
 But dyd ybuyld the Temple chyrche soe fyne,
 The whyche ys wroughte abowte so ^c bismarelie;

I tte

^v An empty boast. ^w Mosques. ^x Faith. ^y Lightning. ^z Drive. ^a Many.
^b Useless. ^c Curiously.

Itte seemeth ^d camoys to the wondrynge eyne;
 And ever and anon when belles rynged,
 From place to place ytte moveth yttes hie heade:
 Butte Canynge from the sweate of hys owne browes,
 Dyd gette hys golde and rayse thys fetyve howse.

Lanyngelottes Spryte speeketh.

Lette alle mie faultes bee buried ynne the grave;
 Alle obloquyes be rotted mythe mie duste;
 Lette him fyrst carpen that no ^e wemmes have:
 'Tys paste mannes nature for to bee aie iuste.
 But yette in sothen to rejoyce I muste,
 That I dyd not immeddle for to buylde;
 Sythe thys ^f quaintiffed place so glorious,
 Seemeynge alle chyrches joyned yn one ^g guylde,
 Has nowe supplied for what I had done,
 Whych toe mie ^h cierge is a glorious sonne.

Elle's Spryte speeketh.

Then lette us alle do jyntelie reveraunce here,
 The beste of menne and Byshoppes here doe stande:
 Who are Goddes ⁱ shepsterres and do take good care,
 Of the goode shepe hee putteth yn theyre hand;
 Ne one is losse butte alle in well ^k likande
 Awayte to heare the Generalle Byshoppes calle,
 When Mychaels trompe shall sound to ynmoste lande,
 Affryghte the wycked and awaken alle:
 Then Canynge ryfes to eternal reste,
 And fyndes hee chose on erthe a lyfe the beste.

E E E E

CHAP.

^d Crooked upwards, Lat. *simus*. ^e Faults. ^f Curiously devised. ^g Company. ^h Candle.
ⁱ Shepherds. ^k Liking.

C H A P. XXV.

Of the GREAT BENEFACTORS to the CITY, their CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS, ENDOWMENTS, &c.

THERE is not perhaps a nation upon earth, who have made such ample provision for the poor as this, as well by charitable donations as by erecting almshouses, hospitals, infirmaries &c. for their relief. By the returns made by the ministers and churchwardens of the parishes of England and Wales to the House of Commons, of private donations invested in the hands of trustees and feoffees only in the year 1788, it appears the whole annual produce of the money given was 48,243l. 10s. 5d. of land 210,467l. 8s. 10d. total 258,710l. 19s. 3d. an immense sum annually distributed, which would be still greater if the enquiries had been extended to corporations companies &c. It reflects deserved applause on the worthy benefactors, who acting upon motives of true religion and upon christian principles have imitated the gracious example of that divine person who went about doing good, and left us an example that we should follow his steps in relieving the fatherless, the widow, the poor, the imprisoned, the stranger, the diseased, the hungry and thirsty;—yet is it to be lamented, that notwithstanding all these liberal benefactions and a constant and regular levy besides upon all the estates in the kingdom by the poor-rates so burthensome in each parish, yet through some neglect or mismanagement, the want of keeping them in regular employ or some other cause, the poor still complain in our streets, and every where distressed objects present themselves to our view. It is at present under the consideration of Parliament to find a remedy for this great evil.—The worthy benefactors of old naturally thought they should greatly relieve, if not remove the distresses of their fellow-creatures, and ought to be ever esteemed and held in veneration for the noble charities they bestowed and princely foundations they established. None have more distinguished themselves than the merchants of Bristol on this occasion: they can boast of their Canynges and Colston, two most respectable names and characters for charity of the early and
later

later times ; besides a long list of worthies, who have signalized themselves for their charitable donations at different periods, founded schools, hospitals, and houses for religious instruction, attentive to the support of bodily wants, and solicitous at the same time to reclaim the vicious and instruct the young and the ignorant in the great and important truths of the christian religion, providing in the most liberal manner for the body and soul, humanizing the heart, and giving it good impressions, seldom afterwards to be erased.

The following is the long list of Benefactors this city hath to boast of, who many in their life time, more at their death, left large sums of money or estates in land to charitable uses, impelled thereto by a generous philanthropy or love of their fellow-creatures, and the more noble principle, the religious consideration of fulfilling the express command of their Saviour and their God ; and their works do follow them. — Some of them duly sensible how necessary both to health and morals, labour and employment in some business are, have very judiciously left sums of money towards a stock or fund to keep the poor at work, the best of charities ; even the confined prisoner, many in hospitals, almshouses and infirmaries might employ their hands in some slight business, as knitting, making toys, spinning wool, hemp, or cotton &c. to their own emolument and advantage to their health, as well as the good of the commonwealth : whilst living there wholly idle and their hands unemployed, it induces a habit of laziness ever after, renders the mind torpid, and the body morbid, and the disease inveterate, often protracting the cure.

It will be found at length, nothing but employing the poor will do to alleviate the burden of the poor-rates this nation now labours under beyond all bounds. Till several parishes that lie contiguous join in erecting a workhouse to keep their poor at work, no human means will ever be devised to remedy the evil ; the poor without employment will become more wretched and idle, more wicked and more diseased, relying upon the parish pay they lose all good habits of industry, become indolent and diseased, notwithstanding the infirmaries and hospitals erected for their relief.

It is very certain, when charities were invested in religious houses formerly, they were often much abused and perverted to other purposes than the donor or founder intended, but in a public corporation there is less danger of such abuse ; and greater care and better management where so many superintend may justly be expected, to prevent the charities by length of time deviating from the donors intentions, and ceasing to answer the good ends for which they were instituted. The Corporation of Bristol have to their honour recorded them all in a book, open to the inspection of the whole body, where the wills

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are all inserted, the lands described which are allotted for their support, and their ends ascertained, that nothing but wilful inattention and neglect can ever occasion their being misapplied or lost.

CITY BENEFACTORS.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|----|-----|---|---|
| 1292, | Simon Burton gave land by will, producing 4s. per week, vested in the corporation of Bristol, to the relief of 16 poor people in an almshouse erected by him in the Long-Row, orphan book C. B. about | - | - | 220 | 0 | 0 |
| 1385, | Walter Darby by will gave 40l. towards building the tower of St. Werburgh's church, | - | - | 40 | 0 | |
| | And 17 tenements to be sold and the money to be distributed to the poor. | | | | | |
| | And 205l. to religious houses, | - | - | 205 | 0 | 0 |
| | All vested in the corporation O. B. fol. 15. | | | | | |
| 1377, | Richard Spicer by will gave 17 tenements to the city's use, now the Back-Hall, formerly Spicer's-Hall, corporation O. B. | | | | | |
| 1388, | Walter Frampton by will gave tenements towards marrying poor maidens and other good uses, corporation O. B. f. 21. | | | | | |
| 1400, | *John Barstable by will gave lands and tenements to found an almshouse in the Old Market, vested in the corporation, recorded in O. B. | | | | | |
| 1403, | *Thomas Knapp gave by will to the common profit of the city | 133 | 6 | 8 | | |
| | And towards repairing St. Nicholas church | - | 20 | 0 | 0 | |
| | Corporation O. B. | | | | | |
| 1434, | Mark Williams gave by will to buy corn to serve the poor at an easy rate, (corporation little red book f. 71,) | | 66 | 13 | 4 | |
| 1466, | William Canynges gave by deed for divine offices in Red-cliff church | - | - | 340 | 0 | 0 |
| | And in plate to the said church | - | - | 160 | 0 | 0 |
| | Vested in the vicar and proctors of Redcliff. | | | | | |
| 1474, | He also gave by will five tenements and other lands to be sold, the money half to the city's use and half to the chauntries, and to the poor, blind and lame, | | 60 | 0 | 0 | |
| | He also erected an almshouse, corporation great red book f. 247, 291, and O. B. f. 200. | | | | | |

- 1489, Robert Strange gave by deed lands to found St. John's almshouse. Vestry of St. John's. l. s. d.
- 1493, *William Spencer gave 20l. to be lent to the mayor during his office, and 66l. 8s. 8d. to the sheriffs, paying 2s. weekly to the poor of the almshouse in Lewin's-mead, 86 8 8 Corporation
- 1494, He gave also by will a tenement of 4l. per annum for sermons &c. Redcliff.
- John Bagod gave tenements for the use of the city, they paying yearly to the prisoners in Newgate 3s. 4d.
- 1503, *John Foster gave by will lands and tenements for building and endowing Foster's almshouse.
- 1521, John Matthew by will gave lands and tenements to the corporation for Trinity almshouse.
- 1532, *Robert Thorne gave by will 300l. to buy corn and wood when cheap, and sell to the poor at the same price when dear, - - - - - 300 0 0
- And 500l. to lend interest free to young clothiers, - 500 0 0
- And 300l. towards founding his father's grammar-school, 300 0 0
- And 1235l. in divers charities to be paid by his executors, 1235 0 0
- Cor. G. R. B. f. 233.
- 1541, Thomas Hart by will to the corporation 100l. to public uses, 100 0 0
- And tenements the income to free the city gates from toll, G. R. B. of Orphans f. 259, 292.
- 1541, *Thomas White by deed Jan. 14, gave lands in the manor of Hinton Derham, Gloucestershire, to feoffees and the chamberlain 11l. per annum, to exempt the Severn trows from paying toll, custom, murage, or keyage for goods carried from the key of Bristol, payable to the sheriff or other person: and 2l. 8s. to Foster's almshouse, ditto to St. John's ditto, ditto to Spencer's ditto, ditto to St. Thomas ditto; 1l. to All-Saints pipe, ditto to St. John's ditto, in all 22l. 12s. per ann. G. R. B. f. 33.
- 1542, He also gave by will 1l. 10s. 8d. per ann. to the prisoners in Newgate, G. R. B. f. 235.
- 1542, King Henry the 8th. gave by charter lands to the dean and chapter, they paying thereout 20l. per ann. to poor housekeepers, and 20l. to repair highways.

- 1546, Nicholas Thorne gave by will to the corporation 100l. for *l. s. d.*
 repairing bridges, 25l. for repairing the banks and a gra-
 nary, 63l. 13s. 4d. to maids on their marriage, 300l. to the
 library at Bartholemew's, 36l. 13s. 4d. for repairing the
 school, and 400l. to lend young clothiers, - 928 6 8
- 1550, William Pickes by will gave the chamberlain 50l. for re-
 pairing highways, and 20l. for St. Thomas pipe, 70 0 0
 And land 6l. 13s. 4d. per ann. for the poor in Burton's
 almshouse, G. O. B. f. 518.
- 1552, Dr. George Owen gave by deed to the corporation
 tenements value 53l. 16s. 6d. per ann. to pay thereout
 30l. 6s. 8d. to 20 poor in Foster's almshouse at 7d. each
 every Friday, 1l. to other poor on festival days, 12l. to
 a preacher yearly, 4l. to the master of the grammar-
 school on Redcliff-Hill, in all 47l. 6s. 8d.
- 1555, *Richard Whatley gave by will a tenement value 10s. per
 ann. to All-Saints almshouse, G. O. B. f. 291.
- 1558, William Chester gave out of a tenement called Black Friars
 per ann. 1l. 6s. to the almshouse on St. James's-Back, to
 be paid 6d. weekly.
- 1559, Humphry Hook by will gave the corporation 680l. to pay
 4s. per week to the poor of St. Stephen's in bread, and
 4s. per week in coal, the remainder of the interest to
 Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, - - - 680 0 0
- 1560, James Chester gave to the corporation 6l. 13s. 4d. to the
 use of the poor, and 5l. per ann. to the same use, 6 13 4
- 1564, James Dowle by will gave 10l. to the hospital in the Marsh,
 and 10l. to repair the causeway towards Aust, O. B. f. 293, 20 0 0
- 1565, John Such gave the corporation by will 4l. for the poor of
 the city, and 2l. for the school in the Marsh, O. B. f. 295, 6 0 0
- 1566, *Sir Thomas White by deed gave the corporation and St.
 John's college in Oxford 2000l. to purchase land of
 120l. per ann. and thereon to raise 1000l. 800l. to be
 lent 50l. each to 16 young clothiers 10 years interest free,
 and 200l. to buy corn to be sold to the poor without gain,
 and after the expiration of the 10 years to pay yearly to
 22 other cities 104l. a year in rotation for the use of 4

young

- young clothiers of the said towns for 10 years in like l. s. d.
manner, - - - - - 2000 0 0
- 1566, *Thomas Silk by deed gave the corporation 40l. the interest
to be paid between 4 almshouses, - - - 40 0 0
- 1567, Walter West gave a tenement to the poor of St. Thomas
and the prisoners in Newgate equally.
- 1569, *John Dodrige gave two gilt flaggons, weight 152 ounces 8
penyweights, for the use of the mayor.
- *—— Lambert gave the corporation 16s. per annum for
Trinity almshouse.
- 1572, *Francis Codrington by will gave the corporation lands in
Portishead to find bedding for the poor of Trinity
hospital.
- 1574, William Carr by will gave the corporation land value per
ann. 10l. to the poor of the city in the several almshouses.
And 26l. 13s. 4d. towards the marriage of poor maids, and
25l. to the highways, O. B. f. 312. - - - 51 13 4
- 1575, Ann Carr by will gave the corporation 60l. to cloath poor
people, and 50l. to buy wood and coal to be sold to the
poor without gain, O. B. f. 51. - - - 110 0 0
- 1575, Richard Wickham by will gave 68l. for a library in the
grammar-school, - - - - - 68 0 0
- 1575, John Hollister by will gave the corporation 10l. to buy
wood to sell to the poor without gain, - - - 10 0 0
- 1579, John Hayden gave by will to the corporation 100l. to be
lent to a young tradesman at 3l. 6s. 8d. interest - 100 0 0
- 1582, *Thomas Chester by deed gave the corporation in land 10l.
per ann. to St. John's almshouse 7l. 16s. to that on St.
James's Back 4l. and to the people in Bridewell 2l.
- 1583, Thomas Kelke gave by will to the corporation in land 10l.
per ann. for the use of the poor, and 70l. for different
uses, O. B. f. 343. - - - - - 70 0 0
- 1583, William Tucker gave by will to the feoffees of St. Nicholas
a tenement, 2l. 6s. 8d. per ann. to the poor of that
parish 2l. and for a sermon there 6s. 8d.
- 1586, Ralph Dole by will gave out of a tenement in Maryport-
street, 1l. per ann. to repair St. Peter's pump.

- 1586, *John Carr by will gave the corporation the manor of Congersbury, to found Queen Elizabeth's hospital. l. s. d.
- 1587, *John Griffen by will gave 100l. to buy corn to sell to the poor without gain, and 5l. to repair Bedminster causey; and to the feoffees of Temple 2 tenements to relieve the poor and repair the conduit. - - 105 10 0
- 1587, *Anthony Standbank by will gave the corporation tenements on the Key, the income to Queen Elizabeth's hospital, O. B. f. 378.
- 1587, Peter Matthew gave by will 100l. to buy wool and flax to keep people at work in Bridewell, f. 373. - 100 0 0
- 1587, Sir John Young gave 20l. to keep the prisoners at work in Bridewell, Thorn's Audit Book, - - 20 0 0
- 1587, John Wilfon by will gave 2 tenements in St. James's, 26l. per ann. for the Taylors almshouse.
- 1587, William Young gave by will 50l. to keep the prisoners at work in Bridewell, - - 50 0 0
- 1589, *William Bird gave 500l. to Queen Elizabeth's hospital, 500 0 0
- 1592, *Richard Coal gave by will, proved in Doctors Commons 1599, lands and tenements to Queen Elizabeth's hospital; also to the corporation reversion of lands for the use of the poor of the city, and 85l. for the poor, 30l. for repairing the roads, and 20l. to marry poor maids, and 1l. for 2 sermons at All Saints, - - 135 0 0
- 1594, *Robert Kitchen by will gave the corporation 400l. to be lent young tradesmen, at 25l. 10l. and 5l. each, interest free; and 7l. 16s. per ann. in bread to the poor of Christ Church, St. Stephen and Temple; 12l. per ann. for placing out 6 poor children; 2l. 13s. 4d. per ann. towards maintaining a scholar at Oxford or Cambridge; 26l. per ann. to poor householders of the several parishes in Bristol. - - 400 0 0
- 1595, John Brown gave by will out of 2 tenements on the Were 2l. 6s. 8d. for shirts and shifts to the poor of St. Nicholas, the remainder of the rent to the poor of the said parish, &c. Book of Wills, f. 7.
- 1596, George Snow by will gave the feoffees of St. Nicholas a tenement in Tucker-street, they paying 1l. per ann. to the

poor, and 6s. 8d. for a sermon. He also gave 10l. to be distributed to the poor of Bristol, N. B. of W. f. 14,		l.	s.	d.
		10	0	0
1596,	John White gave by will 43l. 6s. 8d. to the poor,	43	6	8
1597,	Margaret Brown gave 10l. to employ prisoners in Bridewell,	10	0	0
1598,	Thomas Aldworth by will gave 108l. to fundry charities,	108	0	0
1602,	*Lady Mary Ramsey gave 1450l. to Queen Elizabeth's hospital and the poor of the city,	1450	0	0
1602,	*Ann Colston gave 200l. to the corporation, they to pay 12l. per ann. to the poor of three almshouses	200	0	0
1602,	William Gibbs gave by will 10l. to Queen Elizabeth's hospital,	10	0	0
1604,	*Alice Cole gave by will 20l. per ann. to feoffees, arising out of certain lands, for 4 almshouses 4l. each and for 4 sermons; also 20l. per ann. more, issuing from the same, to cloath poor boys; she gave also 60l. to poor decayed householders, and 35l. to be divided between certain ministers, N. B. of W. f. 88,	95	0	0
1605,	*John Barker by will gave the corporation 20l. as guardians of orphans,	20	0	0
1605,	Margaret Tindall by will gave a house in Broad-street and lands in Worcestershire 17l. per ann. to the feoffees of St. John's.			
1609,	John Fownes gave the corporation 66l. 13s. 4d. to pay annually 4l. to rake and clean the walks in the Marsh,	66	13	4
1610,	John Hopkins gave by deed to the Society of Merchants 10l. they paying 13s. 4d. per ann. to the Merchants almshouse,	10	0	0
1613,	*Catherine Boucher by will gave a covered cup and skimmer double gilt for the use of the mayor, he paying 10s. for a sermon on the election day at Christ Church.			
1613,	*Thomas White gave lands and tenements, 52l. per ann. to endow a hospital in Temple-street.			
1614,	*Francis James gave 50l. to lend poor tradesmen 10l. each interest free for 2 years,	50	0	0
1614,	*John Dunster gave 100l. to lend to handicraft men at 10l. each interest free for 5 years	100	0	0
	Tobias Matthews gave books to the library in King-street.			
1615,	Robert Redwood by deed gave a tenement for a library and 200l. to lend poor tradesmen 10l. each interest free,	10	0	0

		l.	s.	d.
1617,	Joan Murcott by will gave 200l. to the poor,	-	200	0 0
1618,	Elizabeth Hopkins by will gave to the Society of Merchants 5l. for the Merchants almshouse, and 5l. for the Taylors almshouse,	- - - - -	10	0 0
1619,	*Matthew Haviland gave 4l. per ann. out of certain lands to the corporation for 12 sermons in Newgate.			
1619,	Thomas Holbin gave by will 100l. to the corporation, they paying to the poor of St. Thomas and for a sermon there 5l. per ann. N. B. of W.		100	0 0
1620,	William Chaloner by will gave the churchwardens of St. Nicholas 3l. 5s. per ann. issuing out of certain lands, for them to lay out in bread for 6 poor persons, a two- penny loaf each every Sunday and for a sermon there.			
1622,	*George Nethway by will gave 50l. to the corporation to raise 3l. per ann. to increase the salary of the master of the grammar-school,	- - - - -	50	0 0
1622,	*Dr. Thomas White by deed gave the corporation lands, to erect and endow an almshouse in Temple-street, and te- nements in Grays Inn, 40l. per ann. for the following uses: to give the prisoners in Newgate 2l. a sermon at Temple cross on St. John's-day 1l. 4 sermons at St. Werburgh's 10l. 4 sermons at All Saints 10l. one sermon at Temple 5l. to the poor of Temple hospital in addition 6l. a dinner for the governor of Temple hospital on St. Thomas's-day 2l. to charges about the hospital 4l.			
1623-4,	He also by will gave 100l. to the highways,	-	100	0 0
1621,	Samuel Davis gave by will 50l. to raise 2l. 10s. per ann. 1l. thereof to buy coal for the poor of St. Thomas, 1l. for coal for the poor of Bedminster, and 10s. for a sermon at St. Thomas,	- - - - -	50	0 0
1622,	*Jane Ludlow gave 60l. to raise 3l. per ann. 1l. thereof to the poor of St. Michael's, 1l. to Foster's almshouse, and 1l. to the poor of St. Augustin the Less,	- - - - -	60	0 0
1622,	Thomas Jones by will gave the corporation 380l. to lend to poor freemen at 20l. each with interest, the interest to charitable uses,	- - - - -	380	0 0
1624 or 1634,	William Burrows gave a tenement in Christmas- street, for a parsonage-house for the minister of St.			

John's,

		l.	s.	d.
	John's, and 50l. to repair St. Werburgh's church; and land 16l. per annum to 8 poor old men and women, - - - - -	50	0	0
1625,	William Griffith gave 1l. per ann. out of land for 2 fer- mons at St. John's.			
1625,	Bartholomew Ruffel by will gave a tenement 8l. per ann. to the poor of St. Michael's and to repair that church.			
1626,	Thomas Towns gave the corporation 100l. for a stock to keep poor people at work, - - - - -	100	0	0
1627,	*Edward Cox gave by will the following sums annually: 4l. for 8 sermons at St. Philip's, 10l. for apprenticing poor boys, and 10l. to buy coal for the different parishes in Bristol.			
1627,	*John Whitson by will gave the corporation tenements 20l. per ann. for 20 lying-in women; also his manor of Bar- nett, to erect and endow a school for 40 poor girls; also quit rents of Chew Magna 8l. 10s. 6d. per ann. and 3 bushels of wheat and 3 bushels of rye to the master of Redcliff free school; also 500l. to lend to young trades- men 50l. each for 7 years interest 10s. for each 50l.; also out of a tenement on the Back 3l. per ann. 2l. thereof to repair St. Nicholas church and 1l. for 2 sermons; also 20l. per annum for 2 exhibitions in Oxford. The residuary estate also, amounting to about 3000l. was left to the corporation, - - - - -	500	0	0
1629,	John Doughty by will gave the corporation 100l. to be lent interest free for 5 years to handicraft men, - - - - -	100	0	0
1629,	Humphrey Brown by will gave lands in Felton to the cor- poration, on condition they had 4 sermons in the year preached at St. Werburgh on days therein mentioned, and a lecture every Sunday afternoon at St. Nicholas; also lands in Elberton, for morning prayers at St. Werburgh's.			
1630,	Robert Redwood by will gave the corporation 200l. to lend 100l. each to poor burgesses interest free for 5 years; and 20l. to the poor of Bristol, - - - - -	220	0	0
1630,	William Pitt by will gave 10l. to Bristol library, and 80l. to the poor of St. Thomas, Redcliff, and Temple, - - - - -	90	0	0

		l.	s.	d.
1634,	Matthew Warren by will gave 20l. to the poor of Temple,	20	0	0
1634,	Robert Rogers gave by will 100l. to the corporation, to be lent to 10 burgessees interest free,	100	0	0
1634,	Robert Aldworth gave the corporation by will 1000l. to be lent poor clothiers 50l. each interest free; and 100l. to the poor of St. Peter's almshouse,	1100	0	0
1634,	*George White by will gave the feoffees of Temple 25l. they to pay for a sermon at Temple cross yearly; and to the corporation 200l. to lend to 10 poor clothiers interest free; 100l. to raise 5l. per ann, for relief of prisoners in New- gate; 100l. to buy materials to keep poor people at work; 100l. to raise 5l. per ann. for an exhibition in Oxford; 150l. for a chain of gold for the mayor, if re- fused for charitable uses; also a tenement 5l. per ann. for the poor of St. Michael's.	650	0	0
1636,	Richard Vickris gave the corporation 2l. per ann. by deed for the keeper of Bristol library.			
1636,	*Ann Snigg gave the corporation by will 200l. with which they purchased an annuity of 12l. per ann. towards main- taining 2 poor scholars burgessees of Bristol in Oxford.	200	0	0
1639,	*George Harrington gave the corporation 240l. for them to distribute 26l. at 10s. weekly to poor householders in the parishes of Bristol, and to pay the clerk 20s. a year for keeping the accounts,	240	0	0
1640,	Robert Strange gave lands to erect and endow St. John's almshouse for 15 poor people.			
1641,	Thomas Harrington gave the corporation by deed 5l. 4s. per ann. for the poor of St. James's in bread.			
1653,	Hugh Brown gave the corporation lands in Mangotsfield for charitable uses; he also gave out of lands in Ham- brook 2l. 14s. per ann. to the poor of Redcliff and 2l. 14s. per ann. to the poor of St. John's in bread; he also gave to the poor of Temple 3l. to the poor of St. John's 3l. of Redcliff 3l. of St. Philip's 2l. and of St. Augustin 2l. he gave also to the Society of Merchants a tenement and 100l. to maintain 3 poor people in their almshouse,	100	0	0

- | | | <i>l.</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
|---|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1656, *Richard Long by will gave lands in Sifon, for cloathing | | | | |
| poor men in the Merchants almshouse, and 100l. to raise | | | | |
| 5l. per ann. for the poor of St. Stephen's in bread, | 100 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1659, *Humphry Hook by will gave the corporation 680l. to give | | | | |
| the poor of St. Stephen's parish 8s. weekly in bread and | | | | |
| coal, the remainder to Queen Elizabeth's hospital, | 680 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1661, Francis Glead by will gave 28l. per ann. issuing out of tene- | | | | |
| ments to a poor householder of 13 parishes in Bristol, 2l. | | | | |
| each, 1l. to the accountant, and 1l. for a learned sermon | | | | |
| to be preached at Christ-Church on St. Matthew's day. | | | | |
| 1663, *John Pears gave the corporation by will 20l. to pay 1l. per | | | | |
| ann. for a sermon at St. James's the 31st of March. | | | | |
| 1664, *Rev. Mr. Powel gave 2l. per ann. to 4 almshouses. | | | | |
| 1668, Abraham Birkins gave the feoffees of St. Maryport-lands | | | | |
| 10l. per ann. 2l. thereof to 4 poor people of Maryport, | | | | |
| 2l. to ditto of St. Nicholas, 2l. to ditto of James's, 2l. to | | | | |
| ditto of Temple, and 1l. for a sermon, 10s. to the | | | | |
| collector, and 10s. to the poor in bread. | | | | |
| 1668, Thomas Farmer by will gave the corporation 700l. to raise | | | | |
| 35l. per ann. 20l. thereof to apprentice out two boys of | | | | |
| Queen Elizabeth's hospital, and the remaining 15l. to | | | | |
| the poor of 6 parishes, 2l. 10s. each, - - | 700 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1659, George Knight by will gave the feoffees of Temple 36l. the | | | | |
| interest to pay for a sermon and bread to the poor annu- | | | | |
| ally in Temple parish, and out of a tenement 10s. per | | | | |
| ann. to the poor of St. Nicholas, - - | 36 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1696, Mary Bickham gave the feoffees of Temple a tenement and | | | | |
| 100l. the income and interest to be given in bread every | | | | |
| Sunday to the poor of Temple, also 100l. to the parish of | | | | |
| St. Augustin, the interest for the same purpose, - | 100 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1670, William Pennoyer by will gave out of lands 41l. per ann. | | | | |
| 10l. thereof for the maintenance of a school-master in St. | | | | |
| Leonard's, 10l. for a school-mistress there, 16l. for a | | | | |
| lecture in that church once a week, and 5l. for bread to | | | | |
| the poor. | | | | |
| 1670, Michael Day gave 2l. 13s. per ann. to 3 poor householders | | | | |
| of St. Nicholas, and 13s. 4d. for a sermon, and 4s. 8d. | | | | |
| for the clerk and sexton. | | | | |

1678,

- | | | l. | s. | d. |
|-------|---|------|----|----|
| 1678, | John Miner gave lands for a monthly sermon at St. Stephen's, 2 tenements to apprentice seamens sons, and 20l. the interest to buy bread for the poor of St. Nicholas, | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| 1679, | Thomas Stephens gave lands at Wyke and Abston to feoffees to erect and endow 2 almshouses, in the Old Market and Temple-street. | | | |
| 1683, | Mary Boucher and Joan Langton gave the Society of Merchants lands in Bedminster 80l. per ann. for poor widows, 10s. each. | | | |
| 1685, | *Andrew Barker gave the corporation by deed 6 tenements and 100l. to apprentice poor boys of Queen Elizabeth's hospital, | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| 1686, | John Lawford gave 2l. 12s. per ann. to the poor of St. Peter, and 2l. 12s. to the poor of Temple, issuing out of tenements, to be given weekly in bread; he also gave 50l. each to St. Philip's, St. James, Redcliff, and Christ-Church, the interest for the same purpose, | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| | Mary Gray gave 50l. 6s. 8d. of the interest for a sermon, and the remainder to keep poor children at school. | | | |
| 1686, | Samuel Hale by will gave 230l. the interest to apprentice one poor boy or girl out of each of seven parishes, and 70l. the interest to buy bread for the poor of the same parishes, | 230 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 70 | 0 | 0 |
| 1696, | Edward Colston Esq; by deed gave the Society of Merchants lands to erect and endow an almshouse on St. Michael's-Hill, and to maintain 6 poor men in the Merchants almshouse. | | | |
| 1708, | He also gave them by deed other lands to endow an hospital for 100 boys on St. Austin's-Back, and to endow also a school in Temple-street, p. 444. | | | |
| | *Dr. Sloper by will gave the corporation a tenement in College-Green of 15l. per ann. to buy bibles for the poor in each ward. | | | |
| 1716, | Sarah Ridley gave feoffees by will 2200l. to purchase land to endow an hospital for old maids and batchelors, | 2200 | 0 | 0 |
| 1725, | John Gray gave 120l. to Temple charity-school for girls, | 120 | 0 | 0 |
| 1726, | Thomas Warren gave a tenement in Temple-street, the income for a sermon and bread for the poor of Temple. | | | |

- 1729, Ann Aldworth gave tenements, 2l. 10s. of the rent for a sermon &c. at All-Saints and St. Austin's, the remainder to All-Saints almshouse. l. s. d.
- 1749, Peter Davis gave 50l. to the charity-school of St. Michael and St. Austin, and 150l. the interest for a sermon and bread for the poor of the parish of St. Michael's, 200 0 0
- 1727, Sir Abraham Elton by will gave 50l. each to the parishes of St. John and St. Werburgh, the interest for the use of the poor, and 50l. the interest for a sermon and for the poor of St. Werburgh's, and 50l. the interest to maintain a decayed sailor in the Merchants almshouse, and 100l. to Trinity hospital, 300 0 0
- 1779, Mary Ann Peloquin gave the corporation 300l. the interest 5l. to the rector and 2l. to the curate of St. Stephen's for service and a sermon on the 25th of December, the remainder to the clerk and sexton; and 15,200l. the interest to 38 poor men and 38 poor women housekeepers of Bristol; 2500l. the interest to poor lying-in women 1l. 10s. each; 1000l. to 20 poor single women or widows and 10 poor men of St. Stephen's upon St. Stephen's day yearly: she also left her house in Prince's-street for the perpetual residence of the rector of St. Stephen's, 19000 0 0

Note, Those Benefactions marked thus * were established by the committee of the corporation in the year 1739, see p. 138.

C H A P. XXVI.

A BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT of EMINENT BRISTOL MEN.

BIBERT was a native of Bristol, a monk of St. Benedict, and a very famous divine according to Leland, a great historian and philosopher, (Stevens Monastic, v. 1. 190,) he flourished very early but the time is not well known; he left behind him many works which are now lost, except some sermons and the history of his own time.

Ralph of Bristol, being there born was bred in the neighbouring convent of Glastonbury. Going over into Ireland, he first became a treasurer of St. Patrick's in Dublin, then 1223 Bishop of Kildare, he wrote the life of St. Laurence Archbishop of Dublin, and granted (saith Sir James Ware) certain indulgences to the abby of Glastonbury, probably in gratitude for his education therein: he died 1232.

Richard Lavingham, prior of the Carmelite friery in Bristol, was a great writer in divinity about the latter end of the 14th century, and is reported by Pit, p. 534, to have epitomized Bede's history, beginning his work with "Britannia, cui quondam Albion &c."

John Milverton is mentioned by Sir R. Baker in his chronicle as a man of note in Edward the 4th's. reign, he calls him "a Carmelite friar of Bristow, and provincial of his order, who because he defended such of his order as preached against endowments of the church with temporal possessions, was committed to prison in the castle of St. Angelo in Rome, where he continued three years:" he is mentioned by Bale in an epistle dedicated to Queen Elizabeth 1548, prefixed to her translation of the godly meditation of Margaret Queen of Austria, out of French, who says, "he was a provyncyall of the Carmelytes and was full 3 years a prysoner in the castle Angelo at Rome at the sute of the Bishoppes of England for preferring the order of monks and friers above the offyce of Byshoppes, and lost so the Byshoprick of St. David's to which he had been a little before elected. Thys matter (says he) have I hearde under the title of Evangelick Perfection, most depely reasoned in theyr ordynary dyputatyons

putatyons at theyr convocatyons and chapters as they then called them, yet by those whome I knewe most corrupt lyvers," — Milverton died in London 30th January, 1486, and was buried in the choir of the monastery church of the Carmelites there, see Weaver, p. 438. with a Latin inscription in curious monkish rhymes.

John Stowe, "the Bristol Carmelite," was a poet of some reputation in Henry 6th's. time. He is mentioned by Rowley in his poem to John Lydgate on Ella, lord of Bristol castle, together with John Clarkyn, "one of mickle lore." Stowe is noted by Sir Richard Baker, in his Chronicle, as flourishing in that reign; but he calls him a monk of Norwich, and Doctor of Divinity in Oxford. Mr. Wharton, in his Essay on Poetry in England, vol. ii. supposes his name to be Stone, who was a Carmelite at Bristol and died at Cambridge.

Sebastian Cabot, born at Bristol of Genoese parents. His father John Cabot and wife then resided there, which most of the writers agree in. And T. Lanquet, in Chronicle, says, "Sebastian Cabote in 1499, the son of a Genoese and born in Bristol, professing himself excellent in knowledge of the circuit of the world, was sent from Bristol to discover strange countries, and he at first discovered Newfoundland." Vide before p. 173, 174.

John Spine is said by Pits, p. 673. to be born in this city, and was a Carmelite and Doctor of Divinity in Oxford, leaving some books of his writing to posterity. He was buried in Oxford 1484.

Thomas Norton, born at Bristow, is celebrated among the men of note in Edward 4th's. time. As an alchemist, he wrote some books in that art, and in chemistry; also a poem, mentioned by Wharton, in which he celebrates Mr. Canning. Fuller, in his Worthies, says of Thomas Norton, that "He boasted himself to be so great a proficient in chemistry, that he learned it to perfection in 40 days, when he was 28 years old, and complaineth that a merchant's wife in Bristol stole from him the elixir of health, suspected to be the wife of William Cannings of Bristol, (cotemporary with Norton) who started up into such great wealth and so suddenly, the clearest evidence of their conjecture." He quotes Theat. Chymic. of Elias Ashmole for this, p. 441. but the absurdity of this conjecture is too apparent. Of this T. Norton, see more annals 1477. Some say he ruined himself and friends who trusted him with their money, (not unusual with these enthusiastic alchymists) and died very poor in 1477.

William of Worcester, surnamed Botoner from his mother's family, a native of Bristol, was born on St. James's-back of parents, not ex equestri ordine as Tanner saith, but tradesmen, whitawers, skinners, and glovers. In 1431 he first was sent to Hart-hall in Oxford, where 1434 he studied and improved himself

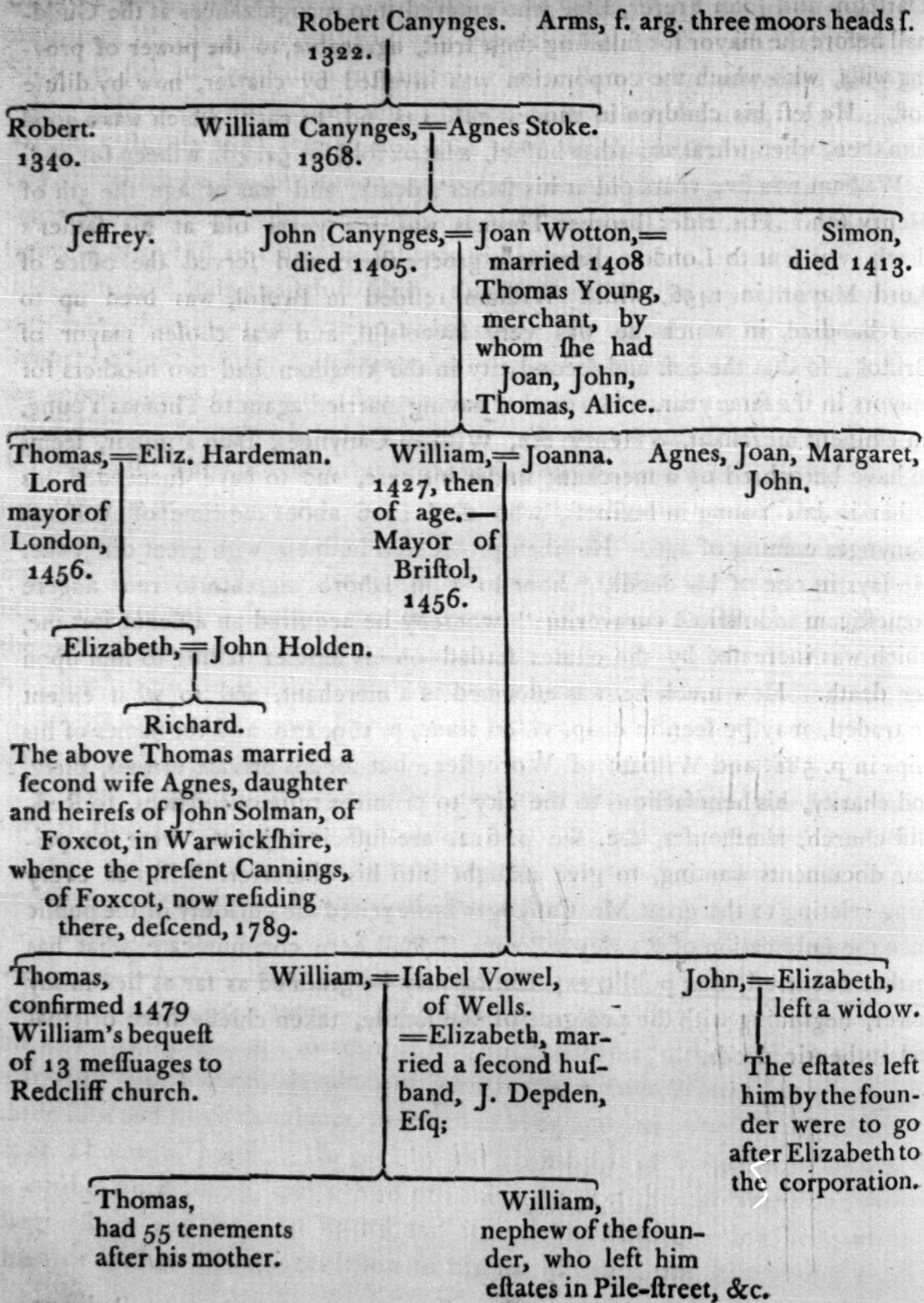
himself greatly by the munificence of Sir John Fastolff, a Knight of Norfolk, in learning of various kinds. He is said to be the first who translated any of Cicero's works into English. He says, p. 368 Itin. "1473 die 10 Augusti presentavi W. (de Wainfleet) episcopo wintoniensi apud asher librum Tullii de Senectute per me translatum in Anglicis, sed nullum regardum recepi de episcopo." It is not uncommon for authors, especially translators, to go unrewarded. But the work that seemed most to engage his attention was an Itinerary, of which he has the honour of having been the first projector; though equal in industry yet not in abilities to his follower Leland. Like him he seems to have had an extensive scheme in his head, which he had neither abilities nor lived long enough to finish, though in our Bristol traveller you meet with many things you can find no where else. His manuscript lay long hid in Bennet college library, Cambridge: it was his common-place pocket-book, the companion of his travels; but written in so vile a character, that it required an *Œdipus* to decypher it, which tedious task was executed by the ingenious Mr. Nasmith, who published the book with Simeon Simeonis in 1778. He is particular in description of the churches, streets, religious houses, &c. of his native city, though little taste in architecture is displayed, and often nothing but their measurements by steps (*gressus*) given, without any order observed, but things are noted down as they occurred. We should not however estimate the skill of this writer from the specimen herein exhibited, which was only a note-book never finished; he might probably have given us a compleat account of the places he visited, but lived not to reduce it into form. He died about the year 1484.

William Canynges, of distinguished eminence as a principal merchant and foreign trader, as the friend and patron of learning and religion, the able magistrate, and charitable benefactor of this city, the wealthy and the wise (*sapientissimus et ditissimus*, William of Worcester) was the second son of John Canynges, sometimes written Canynge in deeds, mayor of Bristol in 1392, 1398, the son of William Canynges, six times mayor, buried in capella St. Mariæ in eccles. St. Thomæ. John Canynges, inheriting a large estate from his father and pursuing a mercantile life, increased his patrimonial estate, and marrying Joan Wotton, daughter of John and Margaret Wotton, had by her three sons and three daughters, and died in 1405 and was buried with his father at St. Thomas's church. He gave by will a third part of his goods to his wife, a third to his children, and a third pro animâ suâ in religious offices; had very large estates and lands in Bristol and its neighbourhood, which he gave to his wife for her life, the reversion to his son William, and also giving great chattels

chattels to his children appointed for them trustees, Joan his wife, Sir Henry Darleton and John Frerer, Esq; who entered into recognizances at the Guild-hall before the mayor for fulfilling their trust, agreeable to the power of proving wills, with which the corporation was invested by charter, now by disuse lost. He left his children in money 72l. 12s. 6d. to each, which was a good sum then, when wheat was 4d. a bushel, a fat ox sold for 5s. 4d. a sheep for 16d.

William was five years old at his father's death, and was of age the 5th of Henry 6th. His elder brother Thomas was ten years old at his father's death, was sent to London, became a grocer there, and served the office of Lord Mayor in 1456, whilst William resided in Bristol, was bred up to merchandize, in which he was very successful, and was chosen mayor of Bristol; so that the first and second city in the kingdom had two brothers for mayors in the same year. His mother having married again to Thomas Young, an eminent merchant, 9 Henry 6th, William Canynges, then a minor, seems to have been bred up a merchant under his care, and to have succeeded his father-in-law Young in business, who died 1426 about the time of William Canynges coming of age. He then prosecuted business with great diligence. He says in one of his deeds, "*honesto cum labore mercatorio rem augere domesticam industriose curaverim;*" whereby he acquired an affluent fortune, which was increased by the estates settled on his mother falling to him upon her death. How much he was esteemed as a merchant, and to what extent he traded, may be seen in chap. vi. on trade, p. 169, 170. and the names of his ships in p. 581. and William of Worcester; but for his private virtues, piety, and charity, his benefactions to the city to promote religious offices, to Red-cliff church, almshouses, &c. see p. 612. are sufficient proofs, were no private documents wanting, to give us light into his character. — But as every thing relating to the great Mr. Canynges has excited the curiosity of the public since the publication of Rowley's Poems, I shall here communicate what has further occurred, that public expectation may be gratified as far as lies in my power, beginning with the pedigree of the family, taken chiefly from original and authentic deeds.

PEDIGREE OF THE CANYNGES FAMILY.



It must be observed of this pedigree, that no original deeds hitherto found mention the family names beyond William in the year 1368 bailiff of Bristol, so that there is no name of ROBERT 1322, called "the morning star of Red-cliff's rising ray &c." in the poems ascribed to Rowley.—But there is no reason for disbelieving the existence of such a man, who through a defect of records is taken little notice of; but the particulars so many and various of his life given us in the manuscript of Rowley leave little room of doubt.—There might have been a Robert as well as a Symon and Jeffery, both which names occur but once.—Robert is said to have a great mercantile genius, eagerly intent upon commerce and pursuit of riches, which laid the foundation of the greatness of the family here afterwards. But whether Robert be a misnomer, and not a family name, it seems clear there was one of such a genius in the family from the following little poem, called an Enterlude, which as it shews the disposition of an ancestor of this as well as many a family, and has not been published among the poems attributed to Rowley, I here insert;

The WORLD E.

Fadre, Sonne, and Mynstrelles.

Fadre. — To the worlde newe and ytts bestoykenynge waie
Thys coistrelle sonne of myne ys all mie care,
Yee mynstrelles warne hymme how wyth rede he straie
Where guylded vyce dothe spredde hys mascill'd snare,
To gettyng wealth I woulde hee shoulde bee bredde,
And couronnes of rudde goulde ne glorie rounde hys hedde.

1st Mynstrel. — Mie name is Intereste, tis I
Dothe yntoe alle bosoms flie,
Eche one hylten secret's myne,
None so wordie goode, and dygne,
Butte wylle fynde ytte to theyr coste,
Intereste wyll rule the roaste.
I to everichone gyve lawes,
Selve ys fyrst yn everich cause.

2d. Mynstrel. — I amme a faytour flame
Of lemmies melancholi,
Love somme behyghte mie name,
Some doe anemp me follie;

To

Inne sprytes of meltyng molde
 I sette mie burneynge sele,
 To mee a goulers goulde
 Doeth nete a pyne avele,
 I pre upon the helthe;
 And from Gode redeyng flee,
 The manne who woulde gette wealthe
 Muste never thynke of mee.

3d Mynstrel. — I bee the Queede of Pryde, mie spyryng heade
 Mote reche the cloudes and stylle be ryfynge hie,
 Too lyttle is the earthe to bee mie bedde,
 Too hallow for mie breetheyng place the skie;
 Daynous I see the worlde bineth me lie
 Botte to mie betterres, I soe lyttle gree,
 Aneuthe a shadow of a shade I bee,
 Tys to the smalle alleyn that I canne multiplye.

4th Mynstrel. — I am the Queed of goulers, look arounde
 The ayrs aboute mee thieves doe repesente,
 Bloudsteyned robbers spryng from oute the grounde,
 And airie vyfions swarme around mie ente;
 O save mie monies, ytte ys theyre entente
 To nymme the redde Godde of mie fremded sprighte,
 Whatte joie canne goulers have or daie or nyghte.

5th Mynstrel. — Vice bee I hyghte onne golde fulle ofte I ryde,
 Fulle fayre unto the syghte for aie I seeme;
 Mie ugsomness wythe goldenne veyles I hyde,
 Laieyng mie lovers ynne a sylkenne dreme;
 Botte whan mie untrue pleasaunce have byn tryde,
 Thanne doe I shewe alle horrownesse and row,
 And those I have ynne nete woulde feyne mie grype eschew.

6th Mynstrel. — I bee greete Dethe, alle ken mee bie the name,
 Botte none can saie howe I doe loose the sprighte,
 Goode menne mie tardyinge delaie doethe blame,
 Botte mooste ryche goulers from me take a flyghte;
 Myckle of wealthe I see whereere I came,
 Doethe mie ghaftness mockle multiplye
 Ande maketh hem afrayde to lyve or die.

Fadre. — Howe villeyne Mynstrelles, and is this your rede,
 Awaie : Awaie : I wyll ne geve a curse,
 Mie sonne, mie sonne, of this mie speeche take hede,
 Nothyng ys goode thatte bryngeth not to purse.

Whether it was a Robert or William Canynges that profited by these useful and interesting instructions of his father is uncertain, but it is very clear that William and his son John were possessed very early of large estates and much wealth, carried on great business and an extensive commerce, which was not lessened by William the last founder, of whom we can speak with more certainty. As early as before 1380 there was a trading guild or fraternity, called "The Fraternity of Canynges;" and John Vyel in his will dated the 25th of May 1398, gives "Fraternitati de Canynges" 40s. fraternitati quâ sum, and there was of old time a house called Canynges Lodge, mentioned in deeds in the chamber of Bristol, where they met, adjoining to Redcliff Church-yard. This proves that the first William Canynges the founder was in rank and ability very capable of completing the work of Redcliff church. The second Wm. Canynges having his father John's great estates entailed upon him after his mother, and having prosecuted the mercantile business to a much greater extent than had been ever known in this city,* (as appears by William Botoner, p. 83. and the account of his shipping there,) was very capable of rebuilding the church when ruined by the storm of thunder and lightning in the year 1445-6, interesting himself doubtless the more upon the occasion as his grandfather William had been partly the founder and the finisher of it, as well as from the pious motive of religion and charity, of which he was all his life a most distinguished example: and if we give credit to what is said of him in the manuscript ascribed to Rowley,† his ability as a man of letters and lover of architecture and the fine arts,‡ rendered him still more fit and likely to undertake such a work. He seems to have enlarged his mind and cultivated a good understanding by learning, which he did not think incompatible with merchandise, and which placed him in a higher sphere, and rendered him a fit companion for the great, and in high esteem with Henry the 6th. and Edward the 4th. He had been a loyalist to Henry the 6th. and supported the royal cause in the house of Lancaster,

* Vid. on Trade of the City, p. 170 he says in his deed, "honesto cum labore rem augere domesticam industrie curaverim &c."

† Vid. poems of Rowley 4to. p. 165. 170. 328. 430. 447.

‡ See Rowley's poems "Anent a Brooklet &c." where his life and taste for learning is particularly noted, also the poem called Canynge's Feast.

Lancaſter, by which however he incurred the diſpleaſure of the ſucceeding King Edward the 4th. of whom he purchaſed his peace at the great ſum of 3000 marks, as mentioned in William Botoner, p. 99. The weakneſs and puſillanimity of Henry the 6th. and the infamous behaviour of his Queen Margaret, loſt him the good-will and intereſt at length of this rich and able man.

The following letters from Canynge to his friend Rowley, as tranſcribed and communicated by Chatterton, will ſet this matter in a proper light, which are ſubmitted to the judgment and candour of the reader.

CANYNGE to ROWLEY, Briſtol.

I be fulle ſorrowefulle that you are notte ynne Briſtowe, and the more ſo as mie Lorde Earle of Warwyke havethe ſente me a letter to poclayme Edward of Yorke Kynge. Certis ytte will ne be to profite of the Yorkeyſts if ytte be foe; butte to me the iſſue maie be death. Mie brederen of the counccille doe notte bethynke me a manne to adviſe them, becauſe I wulde not have them doe mean thynges for gayne, therefore mie wordes wylle not availe, for where reveraunce is wanteing advyce is nought: come as ſoon as the tymes will ſpare you.

WM. CANYNGE.

ROWLEY to CANYNGE, Cirenceſter.

Mie Lorde of Warwyke waulkethe faſte to the crowne, lette him beware hee ſtrayne not hymſelfe yn takeyng ſyke large ſtrydes. Was you of power and in poſſeſſion of caſtles I woulde arede you to maintain unto the deathe the cauſe of Henrie. Anoder lettere maie reche mee before I can goe hence.

T. ROWLEIE.

CANYNGE to ROWLEIE, Briſtowe.

Ye would have me declare for Kynge Henrie, I woulde remayne neutre, botte I muſte perforce be for one of the twayne: ſucceſſyon ys ne the quere, botte who will rule beſte: when ones countrie is abentyng to rewyn itte ys a foule thyng even to be neutre. A Kynge ſhulde bee one who ruleth hys people hymſelfe, and ne trouſteth to untrouſtie ſervāts. Mie actions ſhewe me no ennemie to goode: but methynketh a holie ſeyncte maketh notte a goode Kynge. From the daies of Saxon governmente to thys preſente Englande havethe been undone by prieſt-kynges. Edgar, Edward Confefſour, and Henrie 6th. havethe mette with Danes, Normans, and Warwykes. True Englyſhmen are lyke untoe maſties never pleaſed but whan ſet a fyghteing. Honours to the mynſter are not allwaie honours to the throne. Queen Margarete

rette havith seen the letter; twas aryghte she shulde. Whatever she bee oderwise she ys an unfit dame for oure Kynge, ruleinge him lyke a bearn, ande toieyng with her paramoures, of whom I saie not whom. Mie fadre goeyng to courte onne the marriage of Kynge Henrie, the chamberlayne requeryng hys customarie presente, he wente oute yn greete dole, but kenneynge he mote ne goe there wydoute a guift, he tooke a brasse chaine, and giltyng the same lyke unto goulde, gave ytte to the Queene, from whence ytte came to Harrie 6th. who dyd yeve ytte to hys Queene, and I have seene ytte rounde the necke of Souffoulke withe the unwordie brasse peepeyng oute to viewe the gould chafeyng. Thys longe goulde brasse chaine beeyng in sothe whilome the necke chaine of an hounde, exceedeyng to fighte moste of the guiftes, gotten mie fadre a charter for trade; to renewe whych I have gyvenne 2000 markes and the loane of mie shyppes to bryng mie countriemenne from Fraunce, haveyng the beste parte of mie hanse Virgine Marie of tons 1000 burden brente. I bethynke therefore I maie be accounted a common subiecte of the Kynge, and not bounde to hym by gratytude. I wys hym well ynne a pryours coate ynne a mynsterre, and hys Queene and her paramour yn repentance. Under Henrie we mote have peace, but never renome. But doe not thynke I ame a Yorkeyst. Adieu. WILLIAM CANYNGE.

WILLIAM CANYNGE to the EARL of WARWYCK,

Sendeth greetynge. Mie good Lorde, your letterre I haveth consydered; but be not of power to renderre you service. Moste of the cityzens stande welle affected toe you, but it be not possitable for hem to availe youe anie waies, excepte bie pryvate conveyance of sylver and monies, whyche God wote theie love too welle. I sende you bie Syrre Pierce Aleighe twa hundredre markes. I consulted wythe some counsylmenne of your commande, who telled the same to Gervaise Clifforde, soe was I enforced to shewe the same to Margaret. Take care of your person, mie goode Lorde, as I heare Syr Charles Baudyn and his broder John a Fulforde threat your lyfe wyth privie assasynatyng. I bee ne thyrstie for bloude, botte whanne the lymbes be unfounde ungentele meanes must be used bie brennyng, to keepe the heart whole. Kynge Henrie Godde spare hys lyfe, but the despoyleyng of three score Margarets and Suffoulkes will ne atone for the deathe of the good Duke of Gloucester, wid whome felle Englyshe glorie and Englandes peace. Was the castelle to be gotten ynto the handes of the cytyzens, ytte shoulde renderre you servitude. Botte Syrre Charles Baudyn kepethe it so stoutelie, haveyng the bruges adented, that ytte maie not bee. Algate I will engage me to cai-

tene hym up the castleis utter clostere by sheryve ve areft : gif you wylle behete me, he shall be yn no danger of deathe. Ytte woulde bee fulle joyfulle to mee yffe yoe would conferre the honoure of knyghthoode on Ralph Morris mie coufenne, whoe ys fulle wordie thereof. Mie greteyngs to mie goode Lorde Edwarde of Yorke, who ys chevycyng the kingdome from the oppreßyon of a leman and her paramoures. I wylle sende to hym whenne the Hanse fleete ys come three thousandth markes, wyshyng mie poore services maie bee accepted. Margarete shalle bee shutte oute from Brystowe, and stakes are placed ynne the grange to lette her if she agayne flee to the castle. Shee departed last night aftere evensonge from the castle, ne one cytyzenne yn her trayne ; butte wheder she ys gone I wote notte. Adieu, my good Lorde. Jesus attend you.

WILLIAM CANYNGE.

Upon these letters I would only remark, that undoubted records in the city chamber say that in 1456-7 Queen Margaret came to Bristol, and that John Cline left by will a large sum for the repair of the town walls and forts of Bristol, 40l. of which was spent thereon, 28th Henry 6th. Great Red Book, p. 77. and another 40l. was ordered by act of the mayor W. Canings and council in 1456 for purchasing war stores, all the saltpetre in the town, and twelve brass guns, with four chambers each, p. 17. A. B. And about 2 Edward 4th. they sent the King 40 men defensibly arrayed for the space of two months at their own costs 130l. to attend his service ; and in sending men into the north for his service, and in navies and ships twice into Wales ; and a third time finding a navy to convey his ambassadors into Castile the sum of 1000l. and moreover lent to him 200l. Great Red Book, p. 205. In Ricaut's Kalendar, p. 20. B. in 1460 there was sent to Bristol a parcel of gundowder, saltpetre, and brimstone by John Judde, master of the ordnance to Henry 6th. assigned to H. May, merchant. William Cannings, then mayor, knowing this Judde and May to be enemies to the Duke of York, and assistant to James Earl of Wiltshire, by assent of the council seized the said materials. After which the Duke of York sent two commissions to the said mayor and common council to take upon them the government and defence of the castle against the designs of the Duke of Somerset, who purposed to enter and retain the same. An army and navy was afterwards sent forth by the mayor and council by order of King Edward 4th. against the Welch under Jasper Earl of Pembroke, at the costs of five hundred marks. Whether this coincidence of circumstances at this time does not tend to confirm the facts in the above letters is left to the judgment and candor of the reader.

What

What Mr. Canynges suffered in this distracted state of the kingdom may be easily supposed, being a very rich man each party had recourse to him; but the loss of money he seems not so much to have regarded, having learnt that difficult point — the true and just value of money. But when King Edward 4th. in the 7th year of his reign, was on the death of his wife for imposing upon him a marriage, he took the only way he could with safety to avoid it (and which coincided with his turn of mind) and became a priest. It appears by the register of the Bishop of Worcester (John Carpenter) Sept. 19, 1467, he received the first order of acolyte, 12th of March that of subdeacon, 2d of April, 1468 that of deacon, and 16th of April, 1468 that of priest. He sung his first mass at the church of our Lady of Redcliff. 3d of June, 1469 he was made Dean of Westbury. A private manuscript (Friend) wrote in the year 1669 thus relates it: "1466-7, this mayor (William Cannings) having buried his wyfe, whom he dearly loved, was moved by King Edward to marry another wyfe, whom he had ordained; but Mr. Cannings as soon as he had discharged his year of mayoralty, to prevent it, tooke on hym the order of priesthood, and sung his first mass on Whitsunday at the Lady chapple at Redcliff, and was afterwards Dean of Westbury,* which college by Richard Duke of York and Edward Earl of Rutland was founded, and a dean and cannons placed therein. King Edward gave them the hospital of St. Laurence in the hundred of Barton Regis near Bristol. To this college Mr. Cannings became a great benefactor, and was dean." The Mayor's Kalendar, p. 125. gives a similar account, which may be more relied on as it was written about the time of the transaction by Ricaut, town clerk, 18th of Edward 4th. Mr. Cannings was a great repairer of this college, and with Bishop Carpenter (who lies buried in the church of Westbury) rebuilt great part of it, (see Leland, Col. vol. i. p. 102) "enlarged it, and surrounded it with a wall, towers, and gates, and endowed it with rents."† Bishop Carpenter founded an almshouse there for six poor men and six women, to which Mr. Cannings was a benefactor. A piece of brass fixed to the cover of a mass book here had this inscription, Rowley's manuscripts:

H H H H 2

Thys

* The Bishop Carpenter and Dean Cannings are said to be the founders of this college, but it subsisted more than an hundred years before; they much endowed and improved it. Bishop Carpenter appropriated the rectory of Kemsey near Worcester to it in 1473, at the request of Mr. Canynges. See Dr. Nash's History of Worcestershire, vol. ii. p. 21, 24.

† Vide Tanner's Notitia, p. 142. also Sir Robert Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire. — Bishop Carpenter calls it "Nostrorum foundationis patronatus et dioeceseos." His arms are, Paly of six azure and G. crest on a wreath argent and G. a coney sejant argent.

Thys booken was yeven
 To synge fowles to hev'n,
 And when the fyrste belle doth tolle
 Synge masse for the partyng fowle,
 And eke at the abbye
 Of Canynges of Westburie,
 Thereynn to staie
 Untyll the laste daie.

JOANNES CARPENTER.

On the treble bell, taken down to be recast in 1774, was inscribed in the Gothic character, each letter being inclosed in a square by lines, "Sancta Trinitas nos benedicat." Westbury college was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul.

Of Mr. Canynge's becoming a priest at Westbury to avoid a marriage proposed by the King, the following letters said by Chatterton to be transcribed from the originals of Mr. Canynge to Rowleie will give a farther account:

1466. To ROWLEIE.

Lyfe ys a sheelde where ne tyncture of joie or tene haveth preheminnence. Kyngedwarde yesterdaie dyd feest at mie rudde house, goeynge ynne the boate uponne the tyde. Canynge, quod hee, I haveth a wyfe for thee of noble howse. Mie goode Liege, quod I, I am oulde and neede not a wyfe. Bie oure Ladie, quod he, you moeste have one. I faide ne moe, bethynkyng ytte a jesse, butte I now unkeven ytte ys a trouthe: come to mee and arede mee, for I wyll ne be wedded for anie Kyngedwarde. W. C.

1467. To ROWLEIE.

Now, broder, yn the chyrche I amme safe, an hallie prieste unmarriageable. The Kynges servitoure attended me to telle, giff I would dyscharge the 3000 markes I shoude ne bee enforced on a wyfe, and also have mie shyppeynge allowed. I made answer, I was now yshorne a preeste, and motte notte be wedded. I have made a free guifte of the markes, and wanted but a contynuaunce of mie trade. Alle ys welle; the Kyngedwarde ys gone, and I am haillie. W. CANYNGES.

1468. To ROWLEIE.

I bee now shutte uppe ynne mie college of Westburie; come mie Rowleie and lette us dyspende our remaynyng yeeres togyder. Hailneffe ys no where founde: societie havethe pleasures, eremitage havethe pleasures, butte contente alleynne canne dysperple payne. W. CANYNGES.

The



NOTES.

On the Prose.

- Line*
 1 I am not sure that the 2.^d word is right.
 4 Slefordes, it may be Ellefordes.

On the Poem.

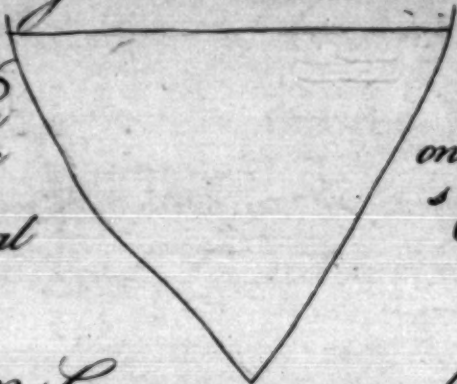
- 3 Twinde, or Tyrnde, it certainly is not Twynde.
 6 The first word I could not make out.
 8 Aldere, or Alders, it is difficult to tell which.
 10 hoorie, it seems rather doorie.
 12 fleemie or fleemie.
 — hapd or hepd.
 13 Eyneganes, it may possibly be Eynegares.
 16 Descended the 2.^d letter is quite out.
 17 Brystone, the 1.^d letter is almost out, and the 2.^d is a Capital.
 24 hand I think the letter after the d, is an e.
 25 dydyd, so in the Original, only the last d, is not quite complete.
 28 The two first letters of the 2^d word, are lost, the rest are what I have written, only I am not sure of the y; and the o may be an a.
 — I am not sure of the last letter in tales.
 34 The 1.st letter in Image is blotted, as are several in the next Word.

OB. Throughout the whole MS. it is very difficult to distinguish the o from the a: and in several places, two letters are so joined together, that the same stroke forms a part of each.



Johas Chatoner a Monke of Seyntes Augustynes Mynster yn
and a Natyffe of Brystone was a... Shylde Carveller yn Stone &
Wode he done the Tombe of... Fytz Herdsdinde
Barkelaje in hys Mynstere the Armes of Brystone at Shefordes
ate the Upmageries of Robynne a Clowsterre and the Tombe of
Tramptonne yn Seynte Johnys Chyrche Hee deceas
yn M. CC. XV. beynge buried ynde the Chyrche of the Templers
Hys Armes Argentura on a Cantonne Aur a Rosyere prop

Of fowre &
Couped Sa
Caputte sec
three Crosse
of hys Paternal



fynde of the Moone three
raoynges Headaes of Draca
onde of Hys Paternal Colour
Calvarye thyn of bendes fourthe
Coulours fye balles three 2 & 1

Wylliam Cannynge was borne Seconde Sonne of Jm
Sonne of W Sonne of Robert Cannynge alle of Seynte Marie of
Radcliffe Hee was related to y Gu. nces Nevylles Montacute... es
ande other gentylle houses butte hee deserveth hys storie yn o.....
gysse than Poynters or Carvellers and so shall I gyve it yn Vear.....

Agynent a Brooklette as I laie redynd
Lystynge to heare the Watere glyde alange
Myndeynge how thorow the Greene Mees it Twinde
Anhyllt the Caves responsd its mottrynge Sange
5 At dystaunt Rysynge Avonne to be Sped
enged wythe rysynge dyd shewe hys heade
Engarlanded wyth Crownes of Os yer Weedes
And Wraytes of Aldere of a bercie scent
And steckynge oute wythe Clowde agestd Reedes
10 The hoorie Avonne... aude dyre Semblamente
Whylst blataunt Severne from Sabryng clepd
Roars stemie oere the Sandes thatte she hapd
These Cynegeanes Inrythymne bryngeth to my thoughte
Of hardie Chompyones knowen to the ffloude
15 Howe onne the bankes brave Alle faughte
Alle d. scaended from Mers kyngele Bloude
Warden of... Rysstowe and Castle Stede
Who ever ande anone made Danes to blee
Methowghte cyhe dowghtie Men must have a Spryght
20 Dote yn the Armonre brace that Michael bore
Whan he wythe Sathan Kynge of Helle dyd fyghte
And Erthe was drented yn a Mere of Gore
Or soone as theie dyd see the Worldis byghte
Fate hand rote downe thys Manne is borne to fyghte
25 Alle I sayde or als mie Mynde dydyd saie
Whie ys thie Actiones leste soe spare yn Storye
Where I toe dyspone there shoulde lyvenne aie
In..... coyme & Earthys Rolles thie tales of Glorie
Thie Actes so dowghtie shoulde for aie abide
30 Ande bie theyre Teste alle after Actes bee tryde
Next holic Wareburghus fyllde me Mynde
As fayre a Seyncte as anie Towne can boaste
Or bee the Erthe wythe byghte or Merke ynrynde
I see hys..... mage wal... ynge throeth the Caste



The following little poem on feliness or happiness, said to be written by him, is quite consonant with this last letter.

Maie Selynesse on erthe's boundes bee hadde?
 Maie ytte adyghte yn human shape bee founde?
 Wotte yee, ytt was wyth Eden's bower bestadde
 Or quite erased from the scaunce-layd grownde,
 Whan from the secret fontes the waterres dyd abownd!
 Does yt agrofed shun the body'd waulke
 Lyve to ytselke and to yttes ecchoe taulke?

All hayle, Contente, thou mayde of turtle-eyne,
 As thie behoulders thynke thou arte yreene,
 To ope the doore to selynesse ys thyne,
 And Chryste's glorie doth uponne thee sheene.
 Doer of the foule thyng ne hath thee seene;
 In caves, ynn woodes, yn woe and dole dystresse
 Whoere hath thee, hath gotten selynesse.

But Rowley's poem "Anent a Brooklet," published by Dean Milles, p. 439, as it gives a curious account of Mr. Canynge's life family, &c. deserves particular notice; and the following lines, part of that poem, are carefully copied by a very ingenious gentleman with the greatest exactness and fidelity, from the original hand-writing on parchment, communicated by T. Chatterton. — The curiosity of the public has lately been excited by printing the poems of Rowley, and the public expectation should be gratified, and nothing concealed that may tend to a discovery of the truth—the following is therefore submitted to the judgment of the candid reader.

Anent^a a Brooklette as I laie reclynd,
 Listeynge to heare the water glyde alonge,
 Myndeynge how thorowe the grene mees^b yt twynd,
 Awilst the cavys respons'd^c its mottring songe,
 At distaunt ryfing Avonne toe be sped,^d
 Amenged^e with ryfing hilles dyd shewe yts heade;

Engarlanded

^a Near. ^b Meadows. ^c Answered to. ^d To be sped, or hastened. ^e Mingled.

Engarlanded wyth crownes of osyer weeds
 And wraytes^f of alders of a bercie scent,
 And stickeynge out wyth clowde agested^g reedes,
 The hoarie Avonne shew'd dyre semblamente,^h
 Whylest blataunteⁱ Severne, from Sabrina clepde,^k
 Rores flemie^l o'er the sandes that she hepde.

These cynegears^m fwythynⁿ bringethe to mie thowghte
 Of hardie champyons knowen to the floude,
 How onne the bankes thereof brave Ælle foughte,
 Ælle descended from Merce kynglie bloude,
 Warden of Bristol towne and castel stede,
 Who ever and anon made Danes to blede.

Methoughte such doughtie^o men must have a sprighte
 Dote^p yn the armour brace^q that Michael bore,
 Whan he wyth Satan kyng of helle dyd fyghte,
 And earthe was drented^r yn a mere of gore;
 Orr soone as theie dyd see the worldis lyghte,
 Fate had wrott downe, thys man ys borne to fyghte.

Ælle, I sayd, or else my mynde dyd faie,
 Whie ys thy actyons leste so spare yn storie?
 Were I toe dispone,^s there should lyven aie
 In erthe and hevenis rolles thie tale of glorie;
 Thie actes foe doughtie should for aie abyde,
 And bie theyre teste all after actes be tryde.

Next holie Wareburgus fylld mie mynde,
 As faire a sayncte as anie towne can boaste,
 Or be the erthe with lygthe or merke^t pywrynde,^u
 I see hys ymage wa'ulkeyng throwe the coaste:
 Fitz Hardyng, Bithricus, and twentie moe
 Ynne visyonne fore mie phantasie dyd goe. &c. &c.

At the conclusion of this poem Mr. Canynges is celebrated by Rowley as the builder of the church of Redcliff, a work greater than that of any other founder here named:

^f Wreaths.	^g Lying on the earth or clods.	^h Appearance.	ⁱ Noised.	^k Named.
^l Frighted.	^m Object of the eyes.	ⁿ Quickly.	^o Valiant.	^p Dressed.
armour or accoutrements for the arms,	^r Drenched.	^s Dispose.	^t Darkness.	^u Cover'd.

Next

Next Radcleve chyrche, oh worke of hand of heaven,
 Where Canynge sheweth as an instrument
 Was to my bismarde eynfyghte newlie given,
 'Tis past to blazon ytt to good contente:
 Ye that woulde fayne the fetyve buyldynge see
 Repayre to Radcleve and contented bee.

But it appears from the little essays said to be collected and written by Rowley for Mayster Canynge, that their friendship was founded on their mutual love of learning and polite literature, and the cultivation of the useful arts. The following are printed from the very originals in Chatterton's hand-writing, sent in two letters to Horace Walpole Esq.

S I R,

Being versed a little in antiquities, I have met with several curious manuscripts, among which the following may be of service to you, in any future edition of your truly entertaining anecdotes of painting—in correcting the mistakes (if any) in the notes, you will greatly oblige,

Your most humble servant,

THOMAS CHATTERTON.

Bristol, March 25th, Corn-street.

The Ryse of Peyncteynge, in Englande, wroten bie¹ T. Rowleie, 1469, for Maſtre² Canynge.

Peyncteynge ynn Englande, haveth of ould tyme bin yn ure; for ſaieth the Roman wryters, the Brytonnes dyd depycte themſelves, yn ſondrie wyſe, of the fourmes of the ſonne and moone wythe the hearbe woade: albeytte I doubte theie were no ſkylled carvellers. The Romans be accounted of all men of cunnyng wytte yn peyncteynge and carvellynge; aunter theie mote inhylde theyre rare devyces ynto the mynds of the Brytonnes; albeytte atte the commeynge of Hengeyſt, nete appeares to wytteneſs yt, the Kyſtes are rudelie ycorven, and for the moſte parte beyge hepes of ſtones. Hengeſte
 dyd

¹ T. Rowleie was a ſecular prieſt of St. John's, in this city; his merit as a biographer, hiftoriographer is great, as a poet ſtill greater: ſome of his pieces would do honor to Pope; and the perſon under whoſe patronage they may appear to the world, will lay the Engliſhman, the antiquary, and the poet, under an eternal obligation.

² The founder of that noble Gothic pile, Saint Mary Redclift Church in this city: the Mecenás of his time: one who could happily blend the poet, the painter, the prieſt, and the chriſtian perfect in each: a friend to all in diſtreſs, an honor to Briſtol, and a glory to the church.

dyd brynge ynto thys reaulme herehaughtrie, whyche dydde brynge peyncteynge. Hengeste bare an ³ asce ahrered bie an afgod. Horfa, anne horse sauleaunte, whyche eftsoones hys broder eke bore. Cerdike, a sheld ⁴ adryfene; Cuthwar a shelde ⁵ afægrod: whose ensamples, were followed bie the hyndlettes of hys troupe, thys emproved the gentle art of peyncteynge. Herehaughtrie was yn esteem amongste them, takeyee these Saxonacheuementes. ⁶ Heofnas un æcced-fet was ybore of Leof—an abthane of Somertonne—⁷ Ocyre aaded—ybore bie Elawolf of Mercia. ⁸ Blac border adronet an storve adellice—the auntiaunte armourie of Bristowe—a ⁹ scelde agrefen was the armourie of Ælle Lord of Brystowe castle—crosses in maynte nombre was ybore, albeyt chiefes and oder partytioned was unknowen, untill the nynthe centurie. Nor was peyncteynge of sheeldes their onlie emploie, walles maie bee seene, whereyn ys auntyaunte Saxonne peyncteynge; and the carvellynge maie be seene yn imageies atte Keyneshame; Puckilchyrche; and the castle albeyt largerre thane life, theie be of feetyve hondiewarke. Affleredus was a peyncter of the eighth centurie, hys dresse bee ynne menne, a longe alban, braced wythe twayne of azure gyrdles; labelles of redde clothe onne his arme and flatted beaver uponne the heade. Nexte Aylward in tenth centurie ycorven longe paramentes; wythoute, of redde uponne purple, wyth goulde beltes and dukalle couronnes beinge rems of floreated goulde—Afflem a peyncter lived ynne the reygne of Edmonde; whane, as storie saiethe was fyrst broughte ynto Englande, the counceyng mysterie of steineyng glasse of which he was a notable perfourmer; of his worke maie bee seene atte Ashebyrne, as eke at the mynster chauncele of Seyncte Bede, whych doethe represente Seyncte Warburghe to whoes honoure the mynsterre whylome han bin dedycated. Of his lyfe be fulle maint accountes. Goeynge to partes of the londe hee was taken bie the Danes, and carryed to Denmarque, there to bee forslagen bie shotte of arrowe. Inkarde a foldyer of the Danes was to flea hym; onne the nete before the feeste of deathe hee founde Afflem to bee hys broder. Affrighte chaynede uppe hys soule. Ghaftnesse dwelled yn his breaste. Oscarre the greate Dane gave heft hee shulde bee forslagene, with the commeyng sunne; no teares colde availe, the morne cladde yn roabes of ghaftnes was come; whan the Danique Kynge behested Oscarre, to araie hys knyghtes eftsoones, for warre: Afflem was put yn theyre flyeyng battailes, sawe

³ A ship supported by a idol.

⁴ An imbossed shield; being rudely carved with flowers, leaves, serpentes, and whatever suited the imagination of the caver.

⁵ A shield painted in the same taste as the carving of the last.

⁶ Azure a plate; which is the signification of æcced-fet.

⁷ Or Pomeise—aad in Saxon was little green cakes, offered to the afgods or idols.

⁸ Sable within a border undee, a town walled and crenelled proper.

⁹ A shield carved with crosses.

sawe his countrie ensconced wythe foemen, hadde hys wyfe ande chyl drene broghten capteeves to hys shyppe, ande was deieyng wythe sorrowe, whanne the loude blantaunte wynde hurled the battayle agaynste an heck. For fraughte wythe embolleyng waves, he sawe hys broder, wyfe, and chyl drene synke to deathe: himselfe was throwen onne a banke ynne the Isle of Wyghte, to lyve hys lyfe forgard to alle emmoise: thus moche for Afflem.

¹⁰ Johne, seconde abbatte of Seyncte Austyns mynstere, was the fyrste Englyshe paynctere yn oyles; of hym have I sayde yn oder places relateyng to his poefies. He dyd wryte a boke of the Proportione of Ymageries, whereynne he saieth the Saxonne dydde throwe a mengleture over theye coloures to chevie them from the weder. Nowe methynkethe steinede glasse mote need no syke a casinge, butte oyle alleyne; botte albeytte ne peyncteyng of the Saxonne bee in oyle botte water, or as whylome called eau. Chatelion, a Frenchmane, learned oyle payncteyng of abbat Johne. Carvellyng ynne hys daies gedered new beauties, botte mostelie was wasted in smalle and dribblet pieces, the ymageries beeyng alle cladde ynne longe paramentes, whan the glorie of a carveller shulde bee in ungarmented ymagerie, therebie shewing the semblamente to kynde. Roberte of Glowster lissed notte his spryghte toe warre ne learnyng, butte was the sonne, under whose raies the flowrettes of the fiede shotte ynto lyfe: Gille a Brogtone was kyndelie noriced bie himme, whoe depycted notable yn eau. Henrie a Thonton was a geason depyctour of countenances; he payncted the walles of Master Canyng hys howse, where bee the counselmenne atte dynnere; a moste daintie ande feetyve performaunce nowe ycrased, beeyng done ynne M.CC.I. Henrie a Londre was a curyous broderer of scarfes ynne sylver ande golde and selkes diverse of hue. Childeberte Weste was a depyctour of countenances. Botte

I I I I

above

¹⁰ This John was the greatest poet of the age in which he lived; he understood the learned languages. Take a specimen of his poetry on King Richard 1st.

Harte of lyone! shake thie sworde,
 Bare thie mortheyng steinede honde:
 Quace whole armies to the queede,
 Worke thie wylle yn burlic bronde.
 Barons here on bankers-browded,
 Fyghte yn furies gaynste the cale;
 Whilest thou ynne thonderyng armes.
 Warriketh whole cyttyes bale.
 Harte of lyon! Sound the beme!
 Sounde ytte ynto inner londes,
 Feare flies sportine ynne the cleeme,
 Inne thie banner terror stondes.

above alle was the peyncter John de Bohunn, whose worke maie be seene yn Westmynster halle. ¹¹ Of carvellers and oder peyncters I shalle saie hereafter, fyrst Englyschynge from the Latyne cis to wytte. Peyncteynge improveth the mynde and smotheth the roughe face of our spryghtes.

S I R,

I offer you some further anecdotes and specimens of poetry and painters, and am

Your very humble and obedient servant,

THOMAS CHATTERTON.

March 30, 69, Corn-street, Bristol.

Historie of Peyncters yn Englande. Bic T. Rowley.

Haveynge sayde yn oder places of peyncteynge and the ryse thereof, eke of somme peyncteres; nowe bee ytte toe be sayde of oders wordie of note. Afwolde was a skylled wyghte yn laieynge onne of coloures; hee lyved yn Mercia, ynne the daies of Kynge Offa, ande depycted the countenance of Eadburga hys dawter, whyche depycture beeynge borne to Brightrycke he toke her to wyfe, as maie be seene at large in ^a Alfridus. Edilwald Kynge of the Northumbers understode peyncteynge, botte I cannot fynde anie piece of hys ^b nemped. Inne a mansion at Cepenhamme I have seene a peyncteynge of moche antiquitie, where is sytteynge Egbrychte in a royaul manner, wythe kynges yn chaynes at hys fote, withe meincte ^c semblable fygures, whyche were symboles of hys lyfe; and I haveth noted the Saxons to be more notable ynne lore and peyncteynge thann the Normannes, nor ys the monies sythence the daies of Willyame le Bastarde so fayrelie stroken as aforetyme. I eke haveth feen the armorie of East Sexe most ^d fetyvelie depycted, ynne the medst of an auntaunte wall. Botte nowe wee bee upon peyncteynge, somme-whatte maie be saide of the poemes of those daies, whyche bee toe the mynde what peyncteynge bee toe the eyne, the coloures of the fyrste beeynge mo dureynge. Ecce Byshoppe of Hereforde yn D.LVII. was a goode poete, whome I thus Englyshe :

Whan azure skie ys veylde yn robes of nyghte,
Whanne glemmynge dewedropes ^e stounde the ^f faytours eyne,
Whanne flying cloudes, betinged wyth roddie lyghte,
Doth on the brindlynge wolfe and wood bore shine,

Whanne

¹¹ I have the lives of several eminent carvers, painters, &c. of antiquity, but as they all relate to Bristol may not be of service in a general historie. If they may be acceptable to you, they are at your service.

^a This is a writer, whose works I have never been happy enough to meet with.—

^b Mentioned. ^c Metaphorical. ^d Elegantly, handsomely. ^e Astonish. ^f Travellers.

Whann even star fayre herehaughte of nyght,
 Spreds the darke doufkie sheene alonge the ¹ mees,
 The wreethynge ² neders sends a ³ glumie lyghte,
 And houlets wynges from ⁴ levyn blasted trees.
 Arise mie spryghte and seke the distant delle,
 And there to ecchoyng tonges thie raptured joies ytele.

Gif thys manne han no hande for a peyncter, he han a head: a pycture ap-
 peareth ynn eache lyne, and I wys so fyne an even fichte mote be drawn, as
 ys ynn the above. In anoder of hys vearfes he faithe,

Whanne sprynge came dauncynge onne a flourette bedde,
 Dighte ynn greene raimente of a chaungynge kynde;
 The leaves of hawthorne boddeynge on hys hedde,
 And whyte prymrosen coureyng to the wynde;
 Thanne dyd the ⁵ shepster hys longe ⁶ albanne spredde
 Uponne the greenie bancke and daunced arounde,
 Whilest the soeft flowretts nodded onne his hedde,
 And hys fayre lambes ⁷ besprenged onne the ground;]
 Anethe hys fote the brooklette ranne alonge,
 Whyche strolled rounde the vale to here hys joyous songe.

Methynckethe these bee thoughtes notte oft to be metten wyth, and ne to
 bee excellede yn theyre kynde. Ellmar Byshoppe of Selseie was fetyve yn
 workes of ⁸ ghaftlienefs, for the whyche take yee thys speeche:

Nowe maie alle helle open to golpe thee downe,
 Whylste azure ⁹ merke ¹⁰ immenged wythe the daie,
 Shewe lyghte on darkened peynes to be moe ¹¹ rounne,
 O maieft thou die lyving deathes for aie;
 Maie floodes of Solfirre bear thie sprighte ¹² anoune,
 Synkeynge to depths of woe, maie ¹³ levnebrondes
 Tremble upon thie peyne devoted crowne,
 And fenge thie alle yn vayne emplyreynge hondes;
 Maie alle the woes that Godis wrathe canne sende
 Uponne thie heade alyghte, and there theyre furie spende.

Gorweth of Wales be sayde to be a wryter goode, botte I understande not
 that tonge. Thus moche for poetes, whose poesies do beere resemblance to
 pyctures in mie unwordie opynion. Afferius was a wryter of hystories; he ys
 buried atte Seynte Keynas College ynn Keynsham wythe Torgotte, anoder

I I I I 2

writer

- | | | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Meads. | 2 Adders, perhaps used for glow-worms. | 3 Gloomy. | 4 Lightning. |
| 5 Shepherd. | 6 A large loose white robe. | 7 Scattered. | 8 Terror. |
| 10 Mingled. | 11 Terrific. | 12 Ever and anon, often. | 13 Thunderbolts. |

writer of hyſtories. Inne the walle of thys college is the tombe of ¹ Seyncte Keyna, whych was ydoulven anie, ande placed ynne the walle, albeit done yn the daies of Cerdycke, as appeared bie a croſſe of leade upon the ² kyfte; ytte bee moe notablie perfourmed than ³ meynthe of ⁴ ymageries of theſe daies. Inne the chyrche wyndowe ys a ⁵ geaſon peyncteynge of Seyncte Keyna fytteynge in a trefoliated chayre, ynne a longe alban braced wythe golden gyrdles from the waſte upwarde to the breaſte, over the whyche ys a ſmaule azure ⁶ coape; benethe ys depycted Galfridus, M.LV. whyche maie bee that Geofroie who ybuylded the geaſon ⁷ gate to Seyncte Auguſtynes chapele once leadeynge. Harrie Piercie of Northomberlande was a ⁸ quaynte peyncter; he lyvedeyn M.C. and depycted ſeveralle of the wyndowes ynne Thong abbie, the greate wyndowe atte Battaile abbeie; hee depycted the face verie welle wythalle, botte was lackeynge yn the moſte-to-bee loked-to accounte, proportione. Johne a Roane payncted the ſhape to an hayre; he carved the caſte for the ſheelde of Gilberte Clare of ⁹ thek fetyve perfourmaunce. Ellwarde ¹⁰ ycorne the caſte for the ſeale of Kynge Harolde of moſt geaſon worke; nor has anie ſeal ſythence bynne ſo rare, excepte the ſeale of Kynge Henrie the fyfthe, corven bie Joſephe Whetgyfte. Thomas a Baker, from corveynge croſſe loafes, toke to corveyng of ymageryes, whyche he dyd moſt fetyvelie; hee lyved ynne the cittie of Bathe, beeynge the fyrſte yn Englande thatte uſed hayre ynne the bowe of the ¹¹ fyddle, beeynge beefore uſed wythe peetched hempe or flax. Thys carveller dyd deceſe ynn M.LXXI. Thus moche for carvellers and peyncters.

John was inducted abbot in the year 1186, and ſat in the dies 29 years. As you approve of the ſmall ſpecimen of his poetry, I have ſent you a larger, which though admirable is ſtill (in my opinion) inferior to ¹ Rowley, whoſe works when I have leiſure I will fairly copy and ſend you.

The W A R R E.

Of warres ² glumm pleaſaunce doe I chaunte mie laie,
 Trouthe tips the ³ poynctelle wyſdomme ⁴ ſkemps the lyne,
 Whylſte hoare experiaunce telleth what toe ſaie,
 And ⁵ forwyned hoſbandrie wyth blearie eyne,

Stondeth

- ¹ This, I believe, is there now. ² Coffin. ³ Many. ⁴ Statues, &c. ⁵ Curious.
⁶ Cloak or mantle. ⁷ This gate is now ſtanding in this city, though the chapel is not to be ſeen. ⁸ Curious. ⁹ Very. ¹⁰ A contraction of ycorven, earved. ¹¹ Nothing is ſo much wanted as a hiſtory of the violin, nor is any antiquary more able to do it than yourſelf. Such a piece would redound to the honour of England, as Rowley proves the uſe of the bow to be known to the Saxons, and even introduced by them. ¹ None of Rowley's pieces were ever made public, being till the year 1631 ſhut up in an iron cheſt in Redcliff church. ² Gloomy.
³ Pen. ⁴ Marks. ⁵ Blaſted, burnt.

Stondeth and⁶ woe bements; the trecklynge bryne
 Rounnyng adone hys cheekes which doethe shewe,
 Lyke hys unfrutefulle fieldes, longe straungers to the ploughe.
 Saie, * Glowster, whanne⁷ besprenged on evrich syde,
 The gentle hyndlette and the vyллеyn felle;
 Whanne⁸ smetheynge⁹ fange dyd flowe lyke to a tyde,
 And sprytes were damned for the lacke of knelle,
 Diddest thou kenne ne lykeness to an helle,
 Where all were misdeedes doeynge lyche unwise,
 Where hope unbarred and deathe eftsoones dyd shote theyre eies.
 Ye¹⁰ shepster swaynes who the¹¹ ribibble kenne,
 Ende the¹² thyghte daunce, ne loke uponne the spere:
 In¹³ ugfommnesse ware moste bee dyghte toe menne,
¹⁴ Unseliness attendethe¹⁵ hounourewere;
 Quaffe your¹⁶ fwote¹⁷ vernage and¹⁸ atreeted beere.

The following observations must occur to every reader of these letters to Mr. Walpole on the poetry and paintings of antiquity:

1. Is not Chatterton's offering to produce the whole collection to him to be inserted in the next edition of the Anecdotes on Painting, a strong proof of himself supposing them originals or copied from such and authentic, or his own good sense would never have risqued the discovery of their being otherwise to so able a judge in such things as Mr. Walpole, so conversant in these very subjects. However he might impose upon others, he never would have chosen such a one for the first trial of his imposition.

2. He sent Mr. Walpole a second letter, and offered to continue this correspondence, and transcribe for him every thing of Rowley's he had in his possession for publication.

3. These related to subjects so various, would any man with the least sense ever attempt a deception in such numerous instances of poetry, painting, carving, heraldry, divinity, antient manners, history of Bristol, and other places, &c.? In each of which he must necessarily lay himself open to detection.

4. Let the coincidence of several circumstances related by Chatterton, and agreement with the same recorded in old deeds and in the city books in the chamber, be weighed and compared, and with other facts, of which he could not possibly come at the knowledge.

5. Let

6 Laments. * Earl or consul of Gloucester. 7 Scattered. 8 Smoking. 9 Blood.
 10 Shepherds. 11 A fiddle. 12 Compact, orderly, tight. 13 Terror. 14 Unhappiness.
 15 The place or residence of honour. 16 Sweet. 17 Vintage, wine, cyder. 18 Extracted from corn.

5. Let all the external evidence already advanced on this occasion be well weighed, the difficulty of forging not a few lines but whole pages on parchment be considered, and what ends could be answered by it, &c. and then the impartial will be able to form a just opinion of this matter in dispute.

The critics may contend about the originality of all or any of the manuscripts, about alterations or additions made, about the usage of old and obsolete words and the language of the time, suffice it for the author of this history that he has faithfully and honestly transcribed and printed them. If it offends, and what will not offend, the "*genus irritabile vatum*," he shall leave them to amuse themselves at their leisure in the way they like best, but wishes nothing but an enquiry after the truth would direct their pens.

Whether they are or are not authentic, whatever alterations in the form or words have been made, and additions and interpolations inserted by Chatterton, they are here faithfully presented to the reader to form his own judgment upon them; whilst the author cannot but lament the unhappy fate of this misguided youth, who leaving the good principles in which he was educated, and led astray by the false glare of a strong imagination and flattering pride of superior understanding, reasoned himself out of all thoughts of a futurity, and forgetting he was a being accountable for his actions to his Maker and his Judge, put a period to his existence, and committing a murder upon himself rushed out of life into the presence of his Maker, without a desire of atonement or forgiveness, without any belief in or reliance on a Redeemer. In his last letter to a friend, dated August 12, 1770, he says, "Heaven send you the comforts of Christianity; I request them not, for I am no Christian." The following letter, printed from his own hand-writing, shews the prevailing temper of this unhappy youth. His master, Mr. Lambert, the attorney, found a letter upon the writing-desk of Chatterton, addressed to a worthy, generous man, Mr. Clayfield, stating "his distresses, and that on Mr. Clayfield's receiving that letter, he (Chatterton) should be no more." At this letter Mr. Lambert being alarmed sent it to Mr. Barrett, thinking he might dissuade him from this impious attempt on himself, who sending immediately for Chatterton questioned him closely upon the occasion in a tender and friendly manner, but forcibly urged to him the horrible crime of self-murder, however glossed over by our present libertines, blaming the bad company and principles he had adopted; this betrayed him into some compunction, and by his tears he seemed to feel it — at the same time he acknowledged he wanted for nothing, and denied any distress upon that account. He next day sent the following letter:

To

To Mr. BARRETT.

S I R,

Upon recollection I don't know how Mr. Clayfield could come by his letter, as I intended to have given him a letter but did not. In regard to my motives for the supposed rashness, I shall observe, that I keep no worse company than *myself*; I never drink to excess, and have without vanity too much sense to be attached to the mercenary retailers of iniquity. — No! It is my PRIDE, my damn'd, native, unconquerable PRIDE that plunges me into distraction. You must know that 19-20th of my composition is pride: I must either live a slave, a servant, have no will of my own, no sentiments of my own which I may freely declare as such, or DIE! — Perplexing alternative! But it distracts me to think of it. I will endeavour to learn humility, but it cannot be here. What it will cost me on the trial Heaven knows!

I am,

Your much obliged, unhappy, humble servant,

Thursday evening.

T. C.

Some few weeks after this he planned the scheme of going to London, and there writing for the bookfellers, &c. Most of his friends and acquaintance contributed a guinea apiece towards his journey, and he there settled, but carried his libertine principles with him, *cœlum non animus mutans*, till the same pride, the same principles impelled him to become his own executioner. He took a large dose of opium, some of which was picked out from between his teeth after death, and he was found the next morning a most horrid spectacle, with limbs and features distorted as after convulsions, a frightful and ghastly corpse. Such was the horrible catastrophe of T. Chatterton, the producer of Rowley and his poems to the world.

But to return from Rowley to his friend and patron Mr. Canynges. It is remarkable, nothing has been found after the latter's becoming Dean of Westbury relating to Rowley, nor is he mentioned in the will of Mr. Canynges, in the prerogative office in a book called *Wattic*, p. 125. dated 12 November, 1474, which has given occasion for many surmises; but might he not have died before that date, before his patron?

It is now left to the judicious and candid reader to form his own opinion concerning Rowley and Chatterton, whilst the life of Mr. Canynges must be considered that of a wise and worthy man, a diligent, rich and honest merchant, who with the greatest honour and integrity filled the office of chief magistrate of this city five times, and of representative in Parliament in 1451, and 1455; and.

and leaving the world and its vanities ended his charitable and pious life in religious retirement.

William Yonge, member for Bristol the 34th of Edward the 3d. 1361, had a son Thomas mayor 1411, and member in Parliament 1414, by his will dated the 14th of March 1426, he styles himself burges of Bristol, and orders his body to be buried before the altar of St. Nicholas in the church of St. Thomas; and leaves legacies to the friers mendicant of Bristol, and for finding a chaplain to pray for his soul in that church for a whole year, and he leaves his wife his mansion in Temple-street, and other messuages there and in the suburbs of Bristol. Thomas Yonge was a great merchant in 1408, and married Joanna the widow of John Canynges, and mother of William Canynges the founder, and there is reason to believe had the care of the education of William Canynges then a minor of only six years old at his father's death. —This Thomas had two sons, Thomas and John; Thomas the elder being an eminent lawyer was returned member for Bristol* in the 15th, 20th, 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 33d of Henry the 6th. was appointed King's serjeant the 3d of Edward the 4th. and chief justice of the common pleas with a grant of ten marks per ann. the 7th of Edward the 4th. and 1463 was recorder of Bristol: dying 1476 was buried in Christ-Church, London: he died seized of the manor of North Wraxal, Wilts, with the advowson of the church and of the manor of Easton in Gordano, Somerset, near Bristol. Mr. Canynges in his deeds calls this Thomas Yonge brother.

The present Right Hon. Sir George Young of Devonshire is lineally descended from this family in Bristol, arms ermine on a bend between two cotizes sable, three Griffins' heads erased or. crest on a wreath arg. and sable a boar's head erased vert bristled or. mantled g. double arg.—Motto, Fortitudine & prudentia.

William Grocyne, native of Bristol, 1467 bred at Winchester school, where when a youth he was a most excellent poet. The following tetrastick is said to be made by him extempore on his mistress pelting him with a snow ball.

Me nive candenti petiit mea Julia; rebar
 Igne carere nivem, nix tamen ignis erat
 Sola potes nostras extinguere Julia flammās
 Non nive, non glacie, at tu potes igne pari.

He

* 1453 he moved in the House of Commons, that as King Henry had no issue, the Duke of York might be declared heir-apparent of the crown; but he was committed to the Tower for this motion.—Smollett's hist. v. 5. p. 27.

He afterwards went over to Italy, where he had Demetrius Chalcondilus and Politian for his masters, and returning to England was the first public professor of the Greek tongue in Oxford. There is no more to be added to his honour, except that Erasmus in his epistles often owns him *pro patrono suo et præceptore*. He died in 1520, aged 80. Vide Wood, Ath. vol. i. p. 13. Biograph. Brit. p. 201. Foster on Accent and Quant. 1763, p. 210.

John Brook, serjeant at law to King Henry the 8th. and one of the justices of assize in the western parts, was a very eminent lawyer, and chief steward to the abbey of Glastonbury; he lies buried in Redcliff church, with an inscription see p. 587. His son David was chief baron of the exchequer the 1st of Queen Mary. He married Catherine daughter of John Lord Chandois, and died without issue.

Sir George Snygg was one of the barons of the exchequer, a most upright judge and skilful lawyer, and recorder of Bristol. See p. 514.

Dr. George Owen is said in a manuscript penes me to be a native of this city, to which he became a distinguished benefactor: see p. 396. 434. He is celebrated by J. Leland, among the *encomia illustrium virorum*, p. 96. vol. v. 2d edit. in a copy of Latin verses, both as a philosopher and physician. He was for his abilities highly favoured at court, and appointed by the discerning Henry the 8th. physician to himself, Queen Catherine, and Edward the 6th.—He attended Cardinal Wolsey in his last illness by express order of the King. (Stow.) He was fellow of Merton college, Oxford, lived at Godstow in Oxfordshire in close friendship with J. Smith, Esq; mayor of Bristol, and was a great purchaser of abby lands of Henry 8th. who favoured him much. He died October 19, 1558.

Hugh or Robert Elliot, sheriff of Bristol, principal pilot of this nation, with Mr. Thorn 1527 made a voyage for discoveries, and first peopled Newfoundland, though he met not with public encouragement. Hackluit, Voyag. vol. iii. p. 10. See before p. 177.

John Fowler, a printer here, a second Henry Stephens, a good poet and orator, well skilled in Latin and Greek, abridged Thomas Aquinas, and translated Orosius into English; but not liking the Reformation of Edward 6th. and Queen Elizabeth, went to Antwerp, and died at Namur 1579, and lies there interred in the church of St. John.

Robert Thorn, born in Bristol, and bred a merchant taylor in London.—He was blessed with a plentiful fortune, and what is more with a liberal mind and charitable and benevolent heart. He is said to have bestowed more than 4440l. to pious uses, and amongst other things founded and endowed the free grammar-school in this city; amidst all not forgetting his poor kindred in the

distribution of his fortune or enriching the public to the neglect of them, he gave them 5140l. besides large sums he forgave that they owed him. He died a batchelor in the 40th year of his age in 1532, and was buried in the church of St. Christopher, London, with the following monumental inscription:

Robertus cubat hic Thornus, mercator honestus,

Qui sibi legitimas arte paravit opes :

Huic vitam dederat puero Bristollia quondam,

Londinum hoc tumultu clauferat atque diem,

Ornavit studiis patriam, virtutibus auxit,

Gymnasium erexit sumptibus ipse suis.

Lector quisquis ades requiem cineri precor optes,

Supplex et precibus numina flecte tuis.

Obiit 1532, ætatis vero suæ anno 40.

Of Nicholas Thorn, brother of the above Robert, see p. 483.

Robert Thorn the elder, father of the above Robert and Nicholas, was bred a merchant, and was mayor of Bristol 1514, and knighted in Seville. He had all the rule of white soap. — In the Temple church, London, is the following inscription to him:

Robertus jacet hic Thorne, quem Bristollia quondam

Pretoris merito legit ad officium.

Huic etenim semper magnæ respublica curæ,

Charior et cunctis patria divitiis,

Ferre inopi auxilium, tristes componere lites,

Dulce huic consilio quosq; juvare fuit.

Qui pius exaudis miserorum vota precesque

Christe, huic in cœli des regione locum.

In the Bristol grammar-school are two paintings of Robert and Nicholas Thorn. Arg. three lozenges G. a lion passant, or, chief fable, with his cypher T. R. and the following verses:

Spina vocor, superest tribuatur gloria danti

Quæ bona pauperibus spina dat esse Deo.

And over Nicholas Thorn's picture is, "Ex spinis uvas collegimus."

William Child, Doctor of Music, born in this city, was chanter of the king's chapel, obtained licence to proceed Doctor of Music at Oxford, which degree he completed in an act celebrated in St. Mary's church, July 13, 1663. He was educated in musical praxis under one Elway Bevan, the famous composer and organist of the cathedral of Bristol. He succeeded Dr. John Mundy as organist at the chapel royal at Windsor, and then was one of the organists of his

Majesty's

chapel at Whitehall and of the private music to King Charles 2d. There are divers composures by him of tunes to psalms, catches, rounds, canons, and divine hymns.

William Gibbes, Doctor of Physic, was a native of Bristol, his family residing in the parish of St. Mary Redcliff and having great property there without Temple-gate. He was physician to Queen Henrietta Maria and Mrs. Mary Stoner of the antient family of that name in Oxfordshire.

James Alban Gibbes, of Bristol, son of William Gibbes of that city, educated a papist at St. Omer's, travelled through Germany, Spain, Italy, &c. and became a compleat scholar, and was made lecturer of rhetoric at Rome by Pope Alexander 7th. in the school of Sapienza and had a canonry of St. Celsus given him by the said Pope, who having published a book of verses, our Gibbes had a copy of verses set before them. This discovered Gibbes's poetical genius, which caused him to be so much admired that Leopold the Emperor in 1667 did create him poet laureate, giving him at the same time a gold chain with a medal hanging thereto, to be always worn by him especially at solemn times and in public places, which being made known to Clement 9th. he was admitted to his presence, kissed his foot, and was congratulated by him; on which account he dedicated his first volume of poems to that Pope. He sent his gold chain and medal to Oxford in 1670 to be kept there in their archives, as a testimony of respect to that fountain of learning. He died 1677, aged 66, and was buried at Rome in the church of St. Maria Rotunda. He was a most voluminous writer of poems, not without great vanity. There is a head engraved of him before his Latin poems, printed at Rome 1668 in 8vo. and under it the following distich:

Tot pro Gibbesio certabunt regna, quot urbes
Civem Mæonidem afferere suum.

Dr. Bathurst wrote a solemn piece of irony upon him: "Carmen in honorem viri celeberrimi et principis poetarum Domini Doctoris Gibbesii, cum diploma a Cæsareâ Majestate sibi a merito concessum æternitati in musarum templo consecrasset.

Oxonium gratare tibi, nunc læta theatri
Limina, Sheldoniasq; arces Gibbesius intrat:
Cerne et apollinea redimitus tempora lauro
Effundat jubar et phæbi patris æmulus ardet, &c."

Dr. Glisson, a physician and great anatomist, descended from Walter Glisson of this city, was educated in Caius college, Cambridge, and became very eminent. He was made King's Professor of Medicine and Fellow of the

College of Physicians, and anatomical reader in that college in 1639. He practised physic in the time of the rebellion at Colchester in Essex, and was present at the siege. He was chosen president of the college, and wrote several books in his art, and is famous for his discovery of the *capsula communis*, *vena cava*, *porta et fellea*, and for discharging the liver of sanguification. He died in St. Bridget's parish, London, 1677. He and Dr. Wharton discovered the internal salivary duct in the maxillary gland. His account of sanguification was esteemed very rational. His *Tractatus de Ventriculo et Intestinis et de Hepate*, Amst. 1677, 4to. are among his principal works. He visited patients in the time of the plague, and kept off the infection by keeping bits of sponge dipped in vinegar in his nostrils.

Dr. Thomas White was the son of John White, born in Temple-street, Bristol, became a student at Magdalen college, Oxford, 1566, whence he went to London, and was a noted preacher and much esteemed, was rector of St. Dunstan's in the West. In 1584 he was made Doctor of Divinity, had a prebend of St. Paul's given him, and was canon of Christ Church, Oxon, 1591, and in 1593 canon of St. George's church, Windsor. Being a generous man and very charitable, he expended the estates he got from the church in charitable uses to Sion college, erecting almshouses, &c. see p. 554. He died 1 March, 1623. In the chamber of Bristol is his picture with some verses under it, which end "Quique ALBOS cœli portamque invenit apertam."

Tobias Matthews was born in St. Thomas parish on Bristol bridge, bred at Christ Church, Oxford, was Bishop of Durham, then Archbishop of York, and died there 1628. There is a print of Tobias Matthæus, Archiepisc. Eborac. by Renold Elstracke sc. 4to. and a portrait of him in the hall at Christ Church, Oxford, of which he was dean. He was translated from Durham in 1606, and was an ornament to the university as well as to the high station he filled in the church. He had an admirable talent for preaching, which he never suffered to lie idle; but he used from town to town to preach to crowded audiences. He kept an exact account of the sermons he preached after he was preferred, by which it appears that he preached when Dean of Durham 721, when Bishop of that diocese 550, and when Archbishop 721, in all 1992. He left nothing in print but a Latin sermon against Campian and a letter to James 1st. Obiit 29 March, 1628, æt. 82. He had a son called Sir Tobie Matthews, of whom his father had conceived great hopes from his forward and lively parts; but being sent abroad to complete his education, he was seduced by Parsons the Jesuit to the church of Rome, and persuaded to enter into that society. He was afterwards much immersed in politics in the reign of Charles

Charles 1st. and James 1st. Obiit 13 Oct. 1655. This eminent divine was a benefactor to his native city; and wishing to excite a love of literature amongst the citizens, he presented them with sundry books towards forming a library of sound divinity and other learning, "for the use of the aldermen and shopkeepers there." See p. 508.

William Haywood, an excellent preacher of his time, was born (being a cooper's son in Baldwin-street) in the city of Bristol, elected scholar at St. John's college, Oxon, by the endeavours of John Whitson, alderman of this city, (an encourager of his studies) anno 1616, aged 16 years. He was soon made fellow of that house. Dr. Laud had a respect for him and his learning, made him one of the domestic chaplains in ordinary to King Charles 1st. In 1636 he was actually created Doctor of Divinity. About that time he became vicar of St. Giles in the Fields near London. In 1638 was made canon of the eleventh stall in the collegiate church of Westminster. This person by the Puritans was looked upon as a favourer of Popery and as a creature of Archbishop Laud, for which in the beginning of that rebellion he was thrown out of his vicarage by the long parliament, and was imprisoned in the compter, Ely house, and in the ships, at length he was forced to fly, and his wife and children were turned out of doors and reduced to great want. After which he kept a private school in Wiltshire, under and in the name of his son John. He was restored to his vicarage and other preferments at the Restoration, and died 17 July, 1663, and was buried at Westminster.

William Penn was born at Bristol 1621, see p. 585. where is an account of him as admiral and general in his epitaph. He was vice-admiral at the attack of St. Domingo 1654, and afterwards at the taking of the valuable island of Jamaica, which we have possessed ever since. He was admiral of the white 1655 and knighted. He was father of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, who had turned Quaker by the preaching of one Thomas Low, to the great trouble and regret of his father, who was however reconciled to his son before his death, and left him an estate in England and Ireland of 1500l. per ann. which enabled him to obtain of the king the grant of land in America, and erect Pennsylvania into a province. Sir William Penn the admiral died 16 September, 1670, and was buried at Redcliff church.

Dr. William Thomas, Bishop of Worcester, was son of Mr. John Thomas, a linen-draper of Bristol, who lived in a house of his own on Bristol bridge, where his son was born on the 2d of February, 1613, and baptized at St. Nicholas church the Friday following. He was bred at the public school at Carmarthen, went to St. John's college, Oxford, in his 16th year 1629, from whence

whence he went to Jesus college, where he took 1632 his Batchelor of Arts degree, and was chosen the principal fellow and tutor of his college. In 1638 he was ordained priest, and appointed vicar of Penbryn in Cardiganshire, and afterwards to Laugharne. He was deprived of his living by the parliament committee in 1644, from which time to the Restoration he endured great hardships, being a sufferer to the amount of above 1500l. and obliged to keep a little private school for the support of his family. At the Restoration he had his living again, and was promoted to the deanry of Worcester November 25, 1665, and in 1667 was promoted to the see of St. David, which he held with the deanry of Worcester. After being Bishop of St. David's six years greatly loved and respected by all, he was translated to the see of Worcester in the room of Bishop Fleetwood, and came thither in August, 1683, where he endeavoured to amend the morals of the people, restore the duties of his church by obliging the prebendaries some to be always resident, and by great hospitality and charity recommended himself to his function. He refused to disperse the king's declaration, and signified to all his clergy his dislike of it; yet he refused taking the oaths to King William, and was preparing to leave his palace, when on the 25th of June he piously resigned his spirit into the hands of God, in the 76th year of his age; the whole estate he left behind him amounting to not more than 800l. which he left to charity.

Edward Colston, the eldest son of William Colston, mayor and alderman of Bristol, by Sarah daughter of Counsellor Bettins was born 2d November, 1636, in the parish of Temple. The family of Colston had long flourished in this city. The 31st of Edward 3d. Hugo Colston married Edith the widow of John Newland, and Thomas Colston before that time, 19 Edward 3d. had estates bequeathed to him in Temple-street by John Wodewrowe. In Guilim's Heraldry mention is made of one Colston in Essex, having a coat armour of two barbels or fish respecting each other, p. 69. 1 Edward 3d. from thence the family might probably first have risen. Thomas Colston, 19 Eliz. 1577, was mayor of Bristol, and died alderman 16 November, 1597. William Colston, the grandson of this Thomas and father of Edward, served the office of sheriff in 1645, and was made deputy lieutenant of Bristol under the Duke of Beaufort, and a fortified redoubt at Kingsdown was called Colston's Mount from him. He died, aged 73, 1681, and being deaf and infirm in his old age was excused attending the council as alderman on that account.

Edward Colston his son being well instructed not only in learning fit for business, but in the principles of the christian religion according to the purity of the church of England; was at years of maturity sent as a factor to Spain, where

where he behaved with great diligence and prudence. He cultivated the Spanish trade of oil and fruit with such industry, that besides the fortune descending to him from his parents, and some say by the death of his brothers, (one of whom is said to be consul at Venice,) he acquired great riches, so great that the family since have never yet given any account how his fortune accumulated so fast.—It has been said he was also concerned early in the trade to the East Indies;—all agree that he was a most successful merchant, and never insured a ship and never lost one. He first lived in Small-street, Bristol, and having so much business in London, and being chosen to represent the city in Parliament, he removed thither and afterwards lived as he advanced in years a very retired life at Mortlake in Surry, constant in his daily devotional duties and in his attendance on the public offices of the church, and exemplified the sincerity of his christian profession by the noblest acts of christian benevolence, of which see p. 622. 444. But his private donations were not less than his public, he sent at one time 3000l. to relieve and free debtors in Ludgate by a private hand; and freed yearly those confined for small debts in Whitechapel prison and the Marshalsea; and sent 1000l. to relieve the poor of Whitechapel; and twice a week had a quantity of beef and broth dressed to distribute to all the poor around him. Any sailor suffering or cast away in his employ, his family afterwards found a sure asylum in him: how solicitous he was of doing good and having his charities answer the design of their institution, appears from a letter of his dated Mortlake 8th Dec. 1711, to Mr. Mason the master of the Society of Merchants in Bristol, the trustees of his charity.—“Your letter was received by me with great satisfaction, because it informs me that the Merchants-Hall have made choice of so deserving a gentleman for their master, by whom I cannot in the least think there will be any neglect of their affairs, so neither of want of care, in seeing my trust reposed in them religiously performed, because thereon depends the welfare or ruin of so many poor boys, who may in time be made useful as well to your city as the nation by their future honest endeavours, the which that they may be is what I principally desire and recommend unto you, Sir, and the whole Society.

Your humble servant,

EDWARD COLSTON.”

When some friends urged him to marry, his usual reply was with a sort of pleasantness, “every helpless widow is my wife and her distressed orphans my children.”—What adds greatly to his character as a charitable man, he performed all these works of charity, however great and extensive, in his life time; invested revenues for their support in trustees hands, lived to see the trusts justly executed, as they are to this day; and perceived with his own eyes the
good

good effects of all his establishments.—That his great fortune might the less embarrass him with worldly cares, he placed it out chiefly in government securities, and the estates he bought to endow his hospital were chiefly ground rents.—And notwithstanding all these public largeesses he provided amply for all his relations and dependents, leaving more than 100,000*l.* amongst them.

Rev. Charles Godwyn, B. D. fellow of Baliol College, Oxford, grandson of Dr. Francis Godwyn, Bishop of Hereford, and great grandson of Dr. Francis Godwyn, Bishop of Bath and Wells; was educated the greatest part of his life in Bristol. His humanity, modesty, candour, probity and inoffensive and unblameable life, as well as his learning and knowledge of antiquities, justly endeared him to his friends, to whom he was very communicative.—He died the 23d of April 1770, and left a well chosen and valuable library, and a large collection of coins ancient and modern, and the bulk of his fortune to the university of Oxford. He was interred at his own request in the chapel of Wolvercote near Oxford. He drew up and translated the charters of Bristol at the request of the corporation, which were published in the year 1736.

Sir William Draper was a native of this city, his father being a custom-house officer of this port, who placed his son under the Rev. Mr. Bryant, master of the cathedral grammar-school there, where he received the first rudiments of his learning. He went early into the army, and abroad to the East Indies; and had his first regiment given him in 1757 by the King for his services at Madras.—He planned and executed with great conduct and resolution the reduction of the Manilla and the Phillippine Islands the 6 of October 1762, for which bold and spirited enterprise he had the 16th regiment of foot, and had the first vacant red ribbon given him and was created Knight of the Bath.—The Spaniards protested the ransom bills for Manilla, by which the brave troops on that occasion, with their General, suffered a great loss, which could not be recovered without involving the nation in a fresh war with Spain.—Sir William purchased a house at Clifton, in the neighbourhood of his native city; where he levelled the ground opposite the Roman camp and planted a vista of yew-trees, and dug up many Roman coins in levelling the ground.—Here he lived retired for some years, and improved this spot and erected in the front of his house a freestone obelisk, with this inscription on the base:

Gulielmo Pitt, comiti de Chatham,
Hoc Amicitiae privatae testimonium,
Simul et honoris publici monumentum,
Posuit Gulielmus Draper.

On the left to answer the obelisk is a Cenotaph, consisting of a raised tomb supporting a large vase, with an urn at top, well executed in freestone; engraven upon the side of the vase are these lines:

Siste gradum, si quæ est Britonum tibi cura, Viator,
 Siste gradum; vacuo recolas inscripta sepulcro
 Tristia fata virum, quos Bellicus ardor Eoum
 Proh dolor! haud unquam redituros misit ad orbem:
 Nec tibi sit lugere Pudor, si forte tuorum
 Nomina nota legas, sed cum terræque marique
 Inviictos heroum animos et facta revolvās,
 Si patriæ te tangat amor, si fama Britannum,
 Parce triumphales lacrymis aspergere lauros.
 Quin si Asiæ penetrare sinus atque ultima Gangis
 Pandere claustra pares, Indosque lacepsere Bello
 Ex his virtutem discas, verumque laborem.
 Fortunam ex aliis.

A table beneath is inscribed with and contains the names of the places taken and of those officers of the 39th regiment who perished in the Indian war, in taking Arcot, Pondicherry, Manilla, and the Phillippine Islands.

Sir William engaged in a literary controversy with the celebrated Junius in defence of the Marquis of Granby, and shewed himself able at the pen as well as the sword, tan marte quam Mercurio.—He afterwards left Clifton and lived at Bath and London, where he died.

ANNALES BRISTOLLIÆ;

O R,

ANNALS OF THE CITY.

A. D.

50. **T**HE Roman armies having about this time made incursions into
 51. the remotest parts of Britain, their proprætors took posses-
 52. sion of the most advantageous posts on the heights and on the great
 rivers and fortified them with strong camps, see p. 7 to 30; which from
 stations became in time to be inhabited, and were like cities, taking
 the name often of the rivers, on the banks of which they were con-
 structed; hence the camps at Clifton and Rownham Hill near Bristol,
 on the river Avon, in the Itinerary had the name ABONE, and from
 them the British city Caër Brito or Brightstow, rose up and flourished
 under the immediate care and protection of OSTORIUS SCAPULA, p.
 21, who according to Tacitus at this time "cinctis Castris Sabrinam
 et Antonam fluvios cohibere parat.

53. The Roman station Abone being 12 or 14 miles from their colony
 54. or city Aquæ Solis, Bath, and the next station to it on the road from
 55. thence to the city Caër Went across the Severn, soon increased, and
 56. in a few years became a most important fortress, consisting of three
 57. strong camps placed on both sides of the river Avon, and constantly
 58. occupied with troops; and had other entrenched posts on Leigh-
 59. Down, and at Sea-Mills, Henbury and Almondsbury attendant upon
 60. it; the ruins of all which are still to be seen.—As this received a con-
 &c. tinual supply of Roman inhabitants, it became a place of settlement
 &c. and a fixed station to them, and the city Caër Brito or Bristow near it,

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soon enlarged itself by a conflux of Britons living in security under the Roman government, civilized by free and mutual intercourse, adopting their manners and habits, and leaving their wandering life in woods built houses and erected towns for their cohabitation, and by inter-marriages and trafficking with them in supplying the garrisons with provisions &c. the Britons soon became romanized, the people being united by the strongest ties of interest, friendship, and good neighbourhood.

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This continued till the Roman armies were called away from Britain, and the regular communication betwixt the colonies at Aquæ Solis (Bath) and Caerwent, and Caerlegion across the Severn ceased. The romanized Britons left in those stations repassing the Severn, and the camps in the neighbourhood, being now deserted as no longer wanted, they flocked hither to the city of Bristol as a secure place and well known to them by the frequent intercourse and resort to it in their journeys betwixt these several stations, and better calculated to receive the numerous colonies that were attendant on those camps than any other place, and to supply them with all the necessaries of life by its established trade, and convenient situation for extending it.—But the civil dissensions of the Britons themselves amongst each other, gave a check to the flourishing state of this and other cities; till the Saxons impolitically called in, a warlike people, soon fixed themselves in those strong

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camps before occupied by the Romans and drove the poor Britons again into Wales, and possessed themselves of this city; and perceiving the advantages of its situation for trade &c. they soon improved it with a fortified wall, and at length with a strong castle, which is well expressed by John Leland, "Aucta est a Saxonibus." After the heptarchy was established, the city of Bristol with Gloucestershire was part of Mercia; and the Anglo Saxon Comites Earls or Lords of Gloucestershire governed the city, of the names of these many have come down to us, see p. 32, 33, till the time of Aylward Sneaw, a descendant of Edward the

900

son of Alfred, p. 35, who about the year 900 was a man of valour under King Athelstan, held the barony of Gloucestershire and lordship of Bristol castle, afterwards inherited by his son Algar and wife Algiva, from whom it descended to Birtrick or Britrick, who was Lord High

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Steward, and a very considerable man in his country as well as on account of his parentage as possessions. Besides the earldom of Gloucester and the several manors appendant thereto, he was Lord of Tewkesbury,

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Tewkesbury, Avening, Fairford, Temple Guiting, Lea, Wheatenhurst, Woodchester &c. &c. held lands in Emston, Harfield, Leckampton, and the hundred of Cirencester, as appears by doomsday.—He lived in the time of the Confessor Edward, who being devoted to the French interest in prejudice to this Saxon nobleman, and to please his courtiers gave the lordship of Bristol and its castle to Leofwyn, p. 204. 33. though he held it but a short space through a quarrel betwixt Earl Godwyn and the King.

1067 Hardyng, the ancestor of the Berkeley family, is said to have accompanied the Norman William into England, and after the battle of Hastings settled in Bristol, and became a rich merchant: he held Wheatenhurst (now Whitminster) in mortgage of Earl Birtrick.—Leland says, “he had a howse at Portchester and another in Brighthowe towne:” some manuscripts say, in Baldwin-street, where was the chapel of St. Baldwin, afterwards converted to lay use, now the Back-Hall.—He is the first magistrate of Bristol we have any account of, though it may be supposed he acted under the authority of the Governor of the castle, before whom the city officers were to be allowed and sworn. He died the 6th of November 1116.

1068 Earl Birtrick by his great estates having attracted the envy of the Norman invaders, and by his gallant and splendid appearance at court gained the love of Matilda daughter of Baldwin Earl of Flanders, afterwards married to William the Conqueror, now felt at once the ill effect of the insatiable avarice and enmity of the Norman nobility, and the fury of an highly affronted lady exasperated at a former flight shewn her, which all concurred to deprive him not only of his estate but his liberty, being at the Queen Maud’s instigation confined at Winchester, and his earldom of Gloucester and lordship of Bristol being settled by the King on the Queen, (Leland v. 6. f. 82.) who seems to have deputed Haymon a Norman as Governor of Bristol, and afterwards Godfrey Bishop of Constance, to her death 1084, and this Bishop Godfrey is mentioned in Domesday-Book as having in Bristow thirty marks and one mark of gold. Vide p. 201. 206. To him succeeded in the year 1090 Robert Fithaymon, who died 1107.

1090 Bristol from its situation was early famous for voyages and trade to Ireland. But the following trade one should have scarce thought had so early an origin and place here, which shews the barbarism of those times recoded in the life of Wulfstan in Anglia Sacra, 2. 258. “There is

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is a town called Brickstou opposite to Ireland, and extremely convenient for trading with that country. Wulfstan induced them to drop a barbarous custom, which neither the love of God nor the king could prevail on them to lay aside. This was the mart for slaves collected from all parts of England, and particularly young women, whom they took care to provide with a pregnancy, in order to enhance their value. It was a most moving sight to see in the public markets rows of young people of both sexes tied together with ropes, of great beauty and in the flower of their youth, daily prostituted, daily sold. Execrable fact! Wretched disgrace! Men unmindful even of the affection of the brute creation! Delivering into slavery their relations, and even their very offspring."

1110 Robert Earl of Gloucester, by favour of Henry 1st. and marriage with Matilda heiress of Robert Fitzhaymon, p. 209. was Lord of Bristol, and in part rebuilt its castle and fortified it against King Stephen, whom he took and confined therein a prisoner. Indeed such was the anarchy of those times, that Lord Lyttelton, vol. i. p. 320. observes, that "Earl Robert's head quarters at Bristol became during these intestine disorders a meer strong hold of banditti, which the Earl could by no means restrain: they made excursions hence to plunder the neighbouring counties, and returning into the castle with numbers of miserable captives; many who could not redeem themselves they murdered in torturing to make them confess what money they could raise, &c." Thus the power being now vested in the people and the regal authority disputed, its natural consequences anarchy and confusion, fire and sword, murder and devastation spread terror through the kingdom, and the nation in general groaned under the severest calamities; the barons even coined their own money, though the coins are now very scarce. Robert's are still extant. He died 1147, 30th of October.

1148 Robert Fitzharding founded the monastery of St. Augustin, Bristol, p. 246. and died 1170.

Dermot King of Lemster in Ireland, with only 60 men in his company, fled over to Bristol, where he was entertained by Robert Fitzharding, a nobleman of Bristol of the royal blood of the Danes, and understanding there that Henry King of England was then in Aquitain, he hastened over thither, and with all submission offered to subject himself and his kingdom to the crown of England, if by his assistance he could recover it. Dermot with letters returned to Bristol, where com-

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communicating the matter with Richard furnamed Strongbow, Earl of Strigule, it was agreed that the next spring the Earl should send auxiliary forces into Ireland to restore him. Ware's History of Ireland in Henry 2d.

1149 William Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Bristol, says Leland, vol. vii. p. 74. "died in Bristol castle, wyllyd to be buried by his father Robert at St. James's, but he was prively conveyed by night to Cainsham."

1173 Henry the 2d. now detained the honour of Gloucester in his own hands eight years, and then gave Isabel third daughter of William to John Earl of Moreton his youngest son, with the whole honour of Gloucester and castle of Bristol and Berton hundred, which Leland, vol. vi. p. 86. well describes, adding "so it hath still remayned yn the kynges hands."

Henry the 2d. about this time granted a charter to the men of Redcliff under the title of "Homines mei, qui manent in feodo meo in marisco juxta pontem de Bristow," omitted in the published Bristol charters: Henricus Rex Angliæ, Dux Normanniæ, &c. "Henry King of England, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, Earl of Anjou, to all barons, justices, sheriffs, and other his servants, English or Welsh, wisheth health. I grant that my men that dwell in my fee in the Marsh near the bridge of Bristow have their certain customs and liberties and quittances through all England and Wales, as my burgeses, and namely those in Bristow and through my land of the county of Gloucester as my charter testifies; and I forbid that any one do them any injury or reproach upon this account." By this it appears there was a bridge over the Avon in Henry 2d's. time. And soon after he granted a charter to his burgeses of Bristol, by which he gave them the city of Dublin, extant in Dr. Leland's History of Ireland. Henry 2d. about this time granted the first charter to his burgeses of Bristol without date, though the editor of the Bristol charters in English has through mistake ascribed the date of Henry 3d's. charter of confirmation to this original charter of Henry 2d. which is therein only recited. "Henry King of England, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Earl of Anjou, to all archbishops, bishops, abbots, priors, earls, barons, justices, sheriffs, and to all the men of his land, greeting. Know ye, that I have granted to my burgeses of Bristol that they be free of toll and passage, and all other customs throughout my land of England, Normandy, or Wales, wherefoever they or their goods shall come. Wherefore I will and strictly command

A. D.

command that they have all their liberties, privileges, and free customs freely, fully, and honourably, as my free and faithful men, and that they may be free from toll and passage and all other customs. And I forbid that any one disturb them hereupon contrary to this my charter, on ten pounds forfeiture. Witness, Thomas Kant, William the king's brother, Reginald Earl of Cornwall, Roger Earl of Hereford, Patrick Earl of Salisbury, Richard de Hum constable, Warren the son of Gerard chamberlain, Walter de Hereford, John Marshall, at Salisbury.

1177 The town of Bristow was fined for Sturmis the usurer.

1184 The burgesses of Bristol paid a fine of 50l. to have respite that they might not plead without the walls of their town till the return of the king into England, who was then gone into Normandy.

1189 Henry 2d. confirmed the charter or grant of lands given to the priory of St. James in Bristol by William Earl of Gloucester.

1190 John Earl of Moreton, in the reign of Richard 1st. now inheriting by the bounty of his father and marriage of Isabel, the rich earldom of Gloucester and lordship of the fee of Bristol, granted to his burgesses the following charter. The original in Latin is now in the chamber of Bristol, which I have examined; and the officer mentioned therein as provost is in the original "preposito," so that prepositor seems to be the earliest chief officer of the city; in Domesday-Book this officer is mentioned, "Sheruvinus prepositus de Bristou," who held a manor in Swineshead hundred in the county of Gloucester. — The "probi homines de Redcliff" before it was united to Bristol were governed in like manner by a prepositor, as appears in the "hiis testibus" of some very old deeds as early as 1200 penes me. The "preposito de Redcliff" being always the first witness, as in all old deeds of Bristol after mayors were appointed the mayor's name is always put down as the first witness.

The charter of John Earl of Moreton to his burgesses of Bristow.
 "John Earl of Moreton to all his men and friends, Frenchmen and Englishmen, Welchmen and Irishmen, now present and in time to come, greeting. Know ye, that I have granted and by this my present charter confirmed to my burgesses of Bristow, dwelling within the walls and without, unto the bounds of the town, that is to say, Sandbrook, Bewell, and Brightnee-bridge, and the well in the way near
 Addlebury

Addlebury of Knoll,* all their liberties and free customs, as well, and in as free and full manner as in the time of my predecessors. The liberties which are granted to them are these: that is to say, that no burgeses of Bristow may sue or be sued out of the walls of the said town in any plea, except for any pleas of foreign tenements that do not belong to the hundred of the town; and that they shall be free of murder within the bounds of the town; and that no burgeses shall wage duel, unless he were appealed of the death of any foreigner that was killed in the town and who was not of the town. And that no man shall take an inn within the walls, by the assent or order of the marshal, against the will of the burgeses. And that they shall be free from toll, lastage, and pontage, † and of all other customs, through all my lands and territories. And that none shall be judged and amerced in money but according to the law of the hundred, that is to say, by the forfeiture of forty shillings. And that the hundred court of Bristow be kept only once in seven days; and that in no plea any one be charged in meskeyningham. ‡ And they may lawfully have their lands and tenures, § days of appearance, and duty, through all my lands, whatsoever shall be due unto them. And that for the lands and tenures within the town right be done according to the custom of the town. And that for the debts which were made in Bristow, and for the pledges there made pleas may be there holden in the town. And that if any one, any where, of any land shall take toll of the men of Bristow, if he doth not deliver

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* This is the description of the antient boundaries of the town, which were not enlarged at the perambulation in the 47th of Edward 3d. 1373, when inquisition was then made of its antient liberties, upon the oaths of thirty-six jurors before justices assigned for that purpose. If you will observe by this charter the bounds here described correspond with those agreed upon when that inquisition was taken, which was ratified by a record thereof in the court of Chancery, and exemplified under the great seal and confirmed by act of parliament. See Bristol Charters, printed 1736, p. 29 to 47, and 51 to 54.

N. B. Brightnee-bridge then called is now called Bright-bow (from the arch bridge) at the end of Bedminster causey. Bewell or Bewell's Cross then called is that where the criminals now usually pray before their execution at St. Michael's-hill gallows. The Well then called in the way near Addlebury of Knoll is that now called Holy Brook Well, going to Lower Knowl, or rather one at Totterdown, now stopped up.

† Lastage is a custom in some markets and fairs for carrying things; also a duty paid for wares sold by the last, that is, by certain weights, measures, or tale. — Pontage is a contribution for the repairing and re-edifying of bridges; also a bridge toll.

‡ That is, if either party on his allegation, vary and change his speech in court, no advantage shall be taken of him to his detriment.

§ Tenure is the manner whereby tenants hold lands and tenements of their lords.

it again after it shall be demanded to be restored to the provost,* he may take and distrain a ship for the same. And that no foreign merchant shall buy within the town of any stranger hides, corn, or wool, but of the burgeses. And that no foreigner shall have any tavern but in his ship, nor sell cloth to be cut but in the fair. And that no stranger shall tarry in the town with his merchandizes to sell the same, but only forty days. And that no burgeses any where else within my land or jurisdiction shall be attached or distrained for any debt, unless he be debtor or surety. And that they may marry themselves and sons and daughters and widows, without licence of their lords. And that none of their lords, by reason of their foreign lands, may have the custody or gift of their sons and daughters or widows; but only of their tenements, which be of their fee, until they be of age. And that no recognizance be made in the town. And that none shall take tynam † in the town, but to the use of the lord of the country, and that according to the custom of the town. And that they may grind their corn wheresoever they will. And they may have all their reasonable gilds ‡ in as full manner as they held them in the time of Robert and William his son, Earls of Glocester. And no burgeses shall be compelled to take sureties of any man, except himself be willing thereunto, although he be remaining upon his ground. And I have also granted to them all their holds, within the walls and without, unto the afore-said mounds of the town, in houses and woods in buildings, by the water and elsewhere, wheresoever it shall be, to be holden in free burgage; that is to say, by landgable service, § which they shall do within the walls. And I have also granted, that every one of them may amend as much as he can, in making buildings, every where upon the bank and elsewhere, without the damage of the borough and town. And that they may have and possess all lands and void places, which are contained in the said mounds, at their wills to build. || Wherefore I will and strictly command, that my said burgeses of Bristow and their

* The chief magistrate of any town, in the original "preposito."

† That is to say, that a tyne may contain twenty-four gallons; and where it is not taken, there shall be paid unto us two pence for the same tyne.

‡ Gild is a society of men incorporated by the king's authority.

§ Burgage is a law term, and signifies a tenure proper to towns and cities, whereby they hold their lands and tenements for a certain yearly rent. It is the same with landgable service.

|| The mayor and corporation of Bristol claim this right to this day, as lords of the waste, from this charter, and have thereby annexed great estates to the city's use; all Queen's-square, King-street, &c. was city waste, and part of St. Augustine's-back, all Prince's-street, and the Key, Grove, and Back.

A. D.

their heirs shall have and hold all their aforesaid liberties and free customs as aforesaid of me and my heirs, as amply, wholly, peaceably, and honourably, as ever they had the same, when, well, and in time of peace, without the hindrance or molestation of any person whatsoever. Witnes, Stephen Rid, my chancellor, William de Wennen, Roger de Dlan, Roger de Newborough, Maurice de Berkly, Robert his brother, Hamar Deval, Simon de Marisco, Gilbert Ralph, William de la Feleyse, Master Benedict, Master Peter, and many others at Bristow."

The nature, effect, and extent of this grant may be collected from the grant itself. It must have been highly advantageous to the burgeses, who must have behaved in a manner very agreeable to their lord to merit such favour from his hands.

1200 After King John came to the crown he granted the town of Bristow in fee farm with a reservation of the castle to the burgeses, at the yearly rent of 245l. *

1202 In the third year of his reign I find the following record enrolled that year: "Gloucester. Anno tertio reg. Joannis termino Michaelis tria messuagia cum pertinentiis in Bristoliâ sunt infra libertates Roberti de Berkley, qui nullam vult facere summonitionem sine breve originali, &c. Rot. xvi."

1209 King John issued a proclamation at Bristol, forbidding the taking all sorts of feathered game throughout England: the first edict of this kind ever made by any king.

1210 The King compelled the Jews to pay great part of his charge into Ireland. The burgeses of Gloucester paid 500 marks towards it, whilst the burgeses of Bristol paid 1000, others their respective quotas, which were paid into the royal treasury at Bristow; and one Engelard Cygoine, the sheriff of Gloucester and the king's justiciary, was King John's treasurer here.

He seized the goods of the Jews; and one instance of cruelty and oppression we have of a Jew at Bristol, who though cruelly tormented refused to ransom himself. The king ordered that they should every day pull out one of his cheek teeth till he would pay down ten thousand marks, accordingly they pulled out seven in as many days, but on the eighth he relented, and so with the loss of seven teeth parted with the money at last.

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1212

* Madox, Excheq. 228. c. 2. (H.) (S.)

A. D.

1212

Anno 13, Bristol. Inquisitio, &c. ubi jurati presentant quot pisces de quolibet genere piscium quilibet batellus debet reddere constabulario castri Bristollia. By this it appears the town was obliged to supply the constable of the castle with a certain quantity of fish, and of different kinds, out of every battel or small boat that came in.

King John, after a series of troubles with his barons, left his son Henry involved in the same, who by the conduct of the brave and wise Earl of Pembroke was proclaimed at Glocester and there crowned.

1215

Guallo, Pope Innocent 3d's. legate, immediately on this held a synod at Bristol, where King Henry 3d. then young, the regent Earl of Pembroke, and other nobles were convened. It is mentioned by Leland out of a little booke of the Calendars of Brightstowe: — "Swalo Cardinale a Romaine legate after the coronation of Henry 3d. at Glocester cam to Brightestow, and kept a synode there tempore Henrici Blefensis episcopi Wigorniensis." But this memorable transaction is more particularly related in Wilkin's Concilia, vol. i. p. 546. "Post coronationem Henrici regis terti, &c." i. e. "After crowning King Henry 3d. Guallo the legate held a council at Bristol on the feast of St. Martin, in which he compelled eleven bishops of England and Wales that were present, and other prelates of a lower class, and the earls, barons, and knights that were convened, to swear fealty to King Henry. He put all Wales under an interdict, because it held with the barons, and excommunicated the barons with all their accomplices, in which Lewis was put at the head." This excommunication of Lewis the French King's son, who had been invited over by the barons, gave some of them a pretence to refuse him homage, and strengthened the interest of the new crowned king.

1216

At this time the king with his counsellors and tutor came to Bristol as to a safe place, at which time he permitted the town to choose a mayor after the manner of London, and with him were chosen two "grave, sad, worshipful men," who were called prepositors.

MAYORS.

PREPOSITORS.

1216

Adam le Page. Stephen Hankin, Reginald Hazard.

The charter of Henry 3d. confirms that of King John, and farther grants that nonusage of privileges or freedoms shall be of no prejudice, but they shall all be enjoyed without disturbance of any of the king's officers; and that the goods, &c. of orphans and children under age shall be committed by the mayor to certain keepers and sureties, who shall

shall answer at due time for the same according to the form of the statute of such recognisances at Westminster set forth. And moreover the burgeses shall have view of frank pledge in the town and suburbs thereof for the good service done by them to the King and his progenitors, and for a fine paid, with all things to such view belonging, and that they should not be questioned for what has been done before. Witness the King at Westminster the 28th of February in the 1st year of his reign, and confirmed the 5th.

A. D. MAYORS.

1217 Martin Underyate.
1218 John Athalle.
1219 Robert Holbraft.
1220 Roger de Staines.
1221 Walter Mombray.
1222 John de Berdwycke.
1223 James de Rowborowe.
1224 Walter de Wynton.
1225 Hugh de Fairford.
1226 John de Marfelfelde.
1227 Henry Long.
1228 Nicholas Higham.
1229 John Bruselaunce.
1230 Henry de Berdwycke.
1231 Elias Spryngham.
1232 Walter le Fraunces.
1233 Richard Aylward.
1234 Jordan Brown.
1235 James le Warre.
1236 Richard de Horton.
1237 Phillip de Pawlet.
1238 Thomas de Weston.
1239 Robert le Bell.
1240 Richard Aylward.

PREPOSITORS.

Richard Martyn, Hugh Upwell.
Richard Palmer, John Snowe.
John Oldham, Henry Vynpenny.
Peter le Goldsmith, Robert de Monmouth.
John de Rumney, Philip le Coke.
Robert de Weston, William Dexe.
Thomas le Spycer, Walter Ubbely.
Robert Martyn, John Methemham.
Richard de Bury, John de Broadways.
William Colepeke, Nicholas Coker.
Alexander Rope, Henry de Tame.
William Chard, Richard Bryan.
Nicholas de Portbury, Wm. de Hayles.
Ralph Atship, Walter le Rede.
John de Kerdyff, John Atwall.
Henry le Walleys, Thomas de Pedeston.
Gilbert le Plomer, Thomas le Chaloner.
Thomas Updyke, John Ergleys.
William Clarke, John de Belliter.
William Golde, Richard de Bury.
Thomas Aylward, Roger Cantocke.
Richard Osmonde, John de Gallande.
William le Chilton, Henry le Challoner.
Wm. de Bellemonte, Rob. de Kilmainam.

The ground in the Marsh of St. Augustine was now purchased of Abbot Bradston for making the trench called the Quay, fee p. 68.

1241 William Spackstone.
1242 John Vells.
1243 Ralph Moyny.

William de Leigh, Robert Parment.
Thomas Rice, Richard Hackall.
Paul Cut, Roger Snake.

A. D. MAYORS.

PREPOSITORS.

1244 Walter Nesham.

Ralph Nupton, John Walker.

This year King Henry granted the following charter: — "Henry King of England Lord of Ireland Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine and Earl of Anjou. Know ye, that we do grant and by this our charter confirm, for us and our heirs, to the burgeses of Bristol, that they may out of themselves, chose a coroner. And the burgeses through the trespass of servants shall not forfeit their goods. And if any of the burgeses should die within our land or jurisdiction, their goods shall not be forfeited by death with or without a will. And they shall have their liberties as free as the city of London. And the neglect of usage of privileges shall be no prejudice. And all their liberties shall be by them freely enjoyed. The disturbers thereof shall forfeit 20l. And we do grant and confirm the said charter, as it doth reasonably testify. And moreover we do grant to the burgeses, for us and our heirs, that they and their successors, burgeses of the said town for ever, shall be free of murage, stallage, and pannage through all England and the dominion thereof. And whenever they shall choose their mayor in the town aforesaid (time of war excepted) they shall present him to the constable of the castle of Bristol as he was wont to be at the Exchequer, and thereof shall certify to the treasurer. These being witnesses; our best beloved brother, Edmund Earl of Kent &c." Dated the 28th year of his reign, and confirmed the 40th.

1245 Elias de Axbridge.

John de St. Barbara, Richard de Tilley.

1246 Richard Frostall.

David le Wright, Richard de Lemster.

1247 Richard Aylward.

William Tonnard, John Norfolk.

The following charter was granted by Henry the 3d. — "Henricus Dei Gratia &c. Sciatis &c. Know ye, that we have granted for us and our heirs to our burgeses of Redclive in the suburbs of Bristol, that they for ever shall answer with our burgeses of Bristol before our justices, as our said burgeses of Bristol do answer, and where they answer and not elsewhere; wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our said burgeses of Redclive in the suburb of Bristol do answer with our burgeses of Bristol before our justices as our said burgeses of Bristol do answer and where they answer and not elsewhere as aforesaid. These being witnesses, Richard Earl of Cornwall our brother, Richard de Clare Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, John Maunsel provost &c. Given under our hand at Wodestoke the 28th of July in the 31st year of our reign, 1247."

About

About the same time Maurice Fitzharding confirmed to his men of Redcliff, which was in his lordship or fee, all their liberties and customs which Robert his father had granted them in Henry the 2d's. time, which see before p. 73.

"Mauritius filius Roberti omnibus hominibus suis & amicis salutem. Sciatis me concessisse & hac carta meâ confirmasse hominibus meis de Redclive omnes consuetudines libertates & quietancias quas habuerunt in tempore patris mei & quas pater meus iis carta sua confirmavit: hi sunt testes Elias Capellanus, magister Mauritius, Adam Dapifer & alii."

After obtaining this charter of the King, the mayor, burgeses and commonalty of Bristol, with the consent and joint charges of the men of Redclive, and the governors also of Temple fee, (the trench for forming the New Key or Quay begun in 1240, being now completed,) begun building a large stone bridge over the Avon, p. 75.

Henry the 3d. also confirmed the charter of King John, and granted to the burgeses an additional liberty, that none of them for the future should be molested by any of his justices of the forest or any of his bailiffs for venison found within the walls of the same town. Dated at Wodestoke the 36th year of his reign.

A. D. MAYORS.

PREPOSITORS.

1248 Reginald de Panes. John Weston, Walter de Berkham.

The charter of the town being now enlarged the shire stones were set up, both on Somersset and Gloucestershire sides, how far the city bounds should go; which were again more particularly ascertained afterwards by perambulation, and the charter of Edward the 3d.

1249	Galfridus le Wright.	Walter Tropp, William Snake.
1250	John Adrian.	Walter Dalmage, Henry Farnham.
1251	Roger de Bury.	Thomas de Norwood, John Cornhill.
1252	Elias Long.	Rob. de Bellemont, Gilbert de Malbrege.
1253	Thomas Rowse.	John Attwood, John Atknowle.
1254	Raynold White.	Ralph Ouldham, William Haseldene.
1255	Henry Adrian.	Hugh Mitchel, William Sevar.

The King bestowed on his son Prince Edward the town of Bristol and other revenues.

1256 Adam de Berkham. Robert Shirley, William Freebody.

A great famine in Bristol, provisions were so scarce that people often fought for the carcases of dogs and other carrion; wheat sold here for 16s. the bushel. Prince Edward was taken by the Barons, who by the King's connivance had enriched himself by the spoils of the

A. D.

the country, the first cause of the barons wars. The army being discharged came and abode at Bristol, until the Prince made his escape, and they then went to the battle of Evesham.

MAYORS.

PREPOSITORS.

1257	Roger de Stokes.	Thomas Eldisham, Robert Pickeridge.
1258	Clement Romney.	Roger Piper, Thomas Winfield.
1259	William de Gloucester.	John Hartshorn, Robert Hornebey.
1260	John de Lyne.	Ralph de Bird, Roger de Cantock.

Robert de Peretone, Abbot of Glastonbury, discharged the many debts of his abbey; Roger de Cantocke, citizen and prepositor of Bristol, demanded 82lb. of silver, owing since the last abbot's time; but it was compromised by the interposition of friends, and the abbot paid him 15 pounds.

1261	Robert Kilmanam.	Thomas Tremworth, Richard Rustheton.
1262	Adam de Berkham.	Thomas Hemmingfield, Geoffry Usher.
1263	Thomas Rowse.	Harry de Puxton, Robert Tremworth.

Prince Edward a prisoner in the castle of Bristol.

1264	Henry Adrian.	Joseph Caparon, William Chadbourn.
1265	Stephen Ormstone.	Ralph Bardwin, John Exhall.

Prince Edward took Bristol castle from the barons, and the town was fined 1000l.

1266	Thomas Selby.	Raynold Richards, John Puxton.
1267	Simon Clarke.	William de Belmonte, Roger de Berckam.

This year the prepositors were called Seneschals or Stewards.

MAYORS.

SENESCHALS.

1268	Robert Mansell.	John Legatt, Peter Marten.
1269	Robert Fisher.	Simon Adrian, Roger Draper.
1270	Ralph Palden.	Richard de Clifton, Thomas Hafelden.
1271	John Wifsey.	Roger de Cantock, William Bradwick.
1272	Richard de Welles.	Robert Snowand, Simon de Wedmore.
1273	Peter de Keinsham.	John Salkin, Ralph de Ax.
1274	Thomas de Hafelden.	Simon Adrian, William de Marina.
1275	Gerrard le Francis.	John de Portshead, Robert Lancaster.
1276	Simon de Bardney.	Rob. de Kingswood, Raynald de Capener.
1277	John de Lydeyard.	Robert Truelove, William de Scriven.
1278	Roger le Tavernor.	John Bryan, Nicholas Atokes.

Wars were now between King Edward and Lewellin Prince of Wales, in the midst of which four ships of Bristol took a prize near the island

island of Scilly, in which was the intended spouse of Lewellin and daughter of Simon Montford, which was well accepted by the King. See Langtoft's chronicle.

A. D.	MAYORS.	SENESCHALS.
1279	Peter de Rumney.	John Hoddy, Thomas Coston.
1280	John Beauflour.	John de Cardiff, Robert de Whetmarsh.
1281	William Horncastle.	William Wedmore, Robert Golding.
1282	Roger Piper, (some Thomas Coker.)	Richard Atokes, William Boyse.
1283	Peter de Rumney.	Richard Tunbrill, William Whitchwell.
King Edward 1st. came from Wales to Bristol about the middle of December, and kept his Christmas here with much content and satisfaction, and held a parliament.		
1284	Richard de Mangotsfield.	Henry Horncastle, Galfrid Snell.
1285	Richard de Mangotsfield.	Thomas de Weston, John Tonney.
1286	John de la Ware.	William Howden, Thomas Prestley.
1287	Roger de Grafton.	Thomas Royston, John Bennington.
1288	Roger le Draper.	John de Cheddre, John le Long.
1289	Roger Turtle.	Hugh de Langbridge, John Francis.
1290	Richard Mangotsfield.	Simon de Burton, William Randolph.
1291	Simon de Burton.	John de Cheddre, John de Snow.
1292	Thomas de Tilly.	Walter Glen, Simon Ricroft.
1293	Walter Francis.	Walter Godshalf, Thomas de Weston.
1294	Simon de Bourton.	Robert de Ottery, William Rowbrough.
This year the mayor founded the church of St. Mary Redcliff, and also the almshouse in the Long-Row in St. Thomas parish, see p. 567.		
1295	William Randolph.	Thomas Updish, Robert Holdbush.
1296	Simon de Bourton.	Robert de Ottery, William Rowbrough.
1297	John Snow.	John de Long, Adam Welshot.
1298	Richard Mangotsfield.	Jeffery Godshalf, William Marina.
1299	Roger Turtle.	John Francis, Hugh de Langbridge.
1300	Thomas de Tilly.	Richard de Colepitt, Wm. de Glaffonbury.
1301	Walter de Adrian.	Robert Bostock, John Horshalt.
1302	Simon de Bourton.	Robert Ottery, Nicholas Rowbrough.
1303	Thomas le Grave.	John Tike, Roger Beauflour.
1304	Simon de Bourton.	William Updish, Robert Hornhurst.
1305	Simon de Bourton.	Robert Ottery, Nicholas Rowbrough.

The town of Bristol gave the King 400l. and it was paid into the treasury, to be freed from certain payments required of all cities and towns.

A. D. MAYORS.

1306 William Randolph.
1307 John Snow.
1308 John Taverner.

King Edward came to Bristol with Gaveston in his way to Ireland, to bring him on his way thither.

1309 John Taverner.
1310 William Randolph.
1311 J. Danfeller.
1312 William Hore.
1313 John le Taverner.

SENECHALS.

John de Chedder, John de Long.
Nicholas Brerton, Thomas de Barwick.
William Le Olive, Gilbert Pickering.

Robert de Ottery, Adam Welfcott.
John Ramney, Walter Trapin.
Thomas Spicer, Robert Randolph.
John Beauflower, Thomas le Spicer.
Lawrence de Cary, Richard de Whitt.

This year seneschals were left out and bailiffs chosen in their place.

BAILIFFS.

1314 Raynald de Paines.
1315 William Randolph.
1316 Robert Passons.
1317 Richard Tilly.
1318 Roger Terrill.
1319 William de Axe.
1320 Richard de Tilly.
1321 Richard de Tilly.
1322 Roger Terrill.
1323 John de Keinsham.
1324 John de Romney.
1325 John de Romney.
1326 Roger Turtle.
1327 Hugh de Langbridge.
1328 John Francis.
1329 John de Axbridge.
1330 Roger Turtle.
1331 Everard le Frances.
1332 Roger Turtle.
1333 Roger Turtle.
1334 Hugh Lanbridge.
1335 Roger Turtle,

Richard Winsman, John le Honte.
Robert Holburt, John Wellishotte.
Richard Colepeck, Henry Winpenny.
Thomas Fraunces, Hugh de Langbridge.
Richard de Paines, Richard le White.
Roger de Littlebury, Jeffery de Wraxall.
William Hangfield, Hugh de Prowt.
Gilbert Pickeril, Clement Turtle.
Thomas le Spicer, Hugh de Langbridge.
Everard le Fraunces, Stephen le Spicer.
Stephen le Spicer, Gilbert Pickerill.
John Fraunces, Walter Prentis.
Robert Guyen, Robert de Wrynton.
John de Romney, Nicholas Free.
John Atwell, Henry de Francis.
Roger Plewett, Henry Babcary.
Stephen de Spicer, Henry Babcary.
Josias de Ramy, Thomas Terpin.
Stephen le Spicer, Henry Babcary.
Josias de Ramy, Peter Testin.
Stephen le Spicer, Thomas Terpin.
Richard de Calne, Walter de Pelevell.

7 times mayor.

A. D. MAYORS.

BAIFFES.

1336	Everard le Frances.	Thomas Tilly, John de Laxham.
1337	Stephen le Spicer.	Robert de Wrington, John le Spicer.
1338	Stephen le Spicer.	Peter Testin, William Hanny.
1339	Everard le Frances.	Thomas Turpine, John de Cobbinton.
1340	Roger Turtle.	James Tilly, Thomas Blanket.
1341	Roger Turtle.	Thomas Turpine, Thomas Blauket.
1342	Robert Wrington.	William Hains, Thomas Albon.
1343	Stephen le Spicer.	John Curtis, William Hanny.
1344	Stephen le Spicer.	William Hains, Thomas Albon.
1345	Robert Gwyen.	John Neal, James Tilly.

William de Colford, then recorder of Bristol, at the request of the commonalty drew up the ordinances, customs, and liberties of the town and recorded them in writing, together with the by-laws and other memorable things for a perpetual remembrance; and the mayor calling to his assistance 48 of the more powerful and principal citizens, as Roger Turtle, Robert Gye, &c. they agreed on many useful laws and ordinances, which were confirmed by the charter obtained of Edward the 3d. dated the 16th of October in the 5th year of his reign, including those of Henry the 3d. Edward the 2d. John Earl of Moreton.

Amongst many regulations then made it was ordered that no leprous man stay within the precincts of the town, nor any common woman remain within its walls; and if such women be found residing there, then the doors and windows of the houses shall be unhung and carried by the serjeants of the mayor to the house of the constable of the ward, and there to be kept till the women be removed.—That no whore should ever appear in the streets, or even within the bars in St. James's without their head covered (capite stragulato) &c. &c.

1346	Robert Gwyen.	Robert Codner, William Hanny.
1347	Robert Wrington.	Roger Banner, Walter Wenlake.
1348	John le Spicer.	John Cobbington, Roger Prentis.

In January this year the plague raged far and near, Regist. Radulph. Episc. Wellens.

1349	Robert Gwyen.	Edmund Blanket, Raynald French.
1350	John Wickham.	John de Castlecary, Walter Darby.
1351	John Spicer.	Robert Chedre, Walter Derby.
1352	John de Cobbinton.	Thomas de Coventry, John de Castlecary.

A. D.	MAYORS.	BAILIFFS.
1353	Richard le Spycer.	Robert Attwall; John Stoke.
1354	Richard le Spycer.	John Stoke, Richard de Dean.
1355	Thomas Babcary.	Richard Hemming, John Cobbinton.
1356	Reynald le French.	Walter Derby, Thomas Inhing,
1357	Walter Frampton.	Richard Bromdon, Jeffery Beauflower.
1358	Reynald le French.	John Stoar or Sore, Henry Vyell.
1359	Thomas Babcary.	Walter Derby, John Stoke.
1360	Robert Chedre.	Elias Spelly, Henry Somerwell.
1361	Richard Brandon.	Walter Derby, William Canynges.
1362	Robert Chedre.	Elias Spelly, Henry Williston.
1363	Walter Derby.	Henry Williston, William Woodrover.
1364	John Stokes.	William Hayle, John Bate.
1365	Walter Frampton.	John de Stowe, Henry Williston.
1366	John Stokes.	William Somervell, John Keene.
1367	Walter Derby.	William Dagon, John Blunt.
1368	John Bath.	John Blunt, John Vyell.
1369	Elias Spelly.	William Canynges, John Vyell.
1370	John Bathe.	Thomas Beaupenny, Henry Vyell.
1371	Richard Spycer.	John Inhyng, John Preston.

	MAYORS.	SHERIFFS.	BAILIFFS.
1372	Wm. Canynges.	John Vyell.	Tho. Sampson, Walter Hudly.
1373	Wm. Canynges.	John Vyell.	Tho. Sampson, Nich. Studley.

This year a new charter was granted by Edward the 3d. see Bristol charters p. 6. by which the King willing to help the town, and on account of the good behaviour of the burgesles towards him, and of their good service by their ships and otherwise done in times past, and for a fine of 600 marks by them paid, granted the town to be separated from Gloucestershire and Somersetshire and to be henceforth a county of itself, to have one sheriff out of three returned into chancery to be chosen by the King, who is to be escheator, the sheriff to hold his court the first Monday in every month; and the mayor to hold his court as hath been accustomed.—The mayor after his election shall take his oath before his next predecessor mayor in the Guildhall, and not be presented to the constable of the castle to be by him accepted; that the mayor and sheriff are to hear and determine the several offences, and no other justice to intermeddle; and that the mayor have power to enroll deeds of lands, tenements &c. within the said town in like manner as in chancery, with power

power to prove wills of lands &c. within the said town, and to put the legacies in execution: that they shall be burdened to send but two knights and burgesses to parliament; and in case any thing new and of difficulty shall happen, the mayor and sheriff shall choose 40 honest men, who together shall have power to make bye-laws and to raise taxes for the necessity and profit of the town.—All disturbers to be punished by the mayor and sheriff, and all former liberties and charters are also confirmed.—Witneses William Archbishop of Canterbury primate of all England, and others, dated at Wodestock the 8th of August, the 47th of Edward the 3d.

At the same time the King granted a commission to 12 men of Bristol, 12 of Gloucestershire, and 12 of Somersetshire, by perambulation to fix by verdict the meets and bounds of the town, as in page 105, which see.—This charter was confirmed by parliament.

A. D.	MAYORS.	SHERIFFS.	BAILIFFS.
1374	Walter Frampton.	Tho. Beaupeny.	Tho. Sutton, Reginald Towker.
1375	Wm. Canynges.	Henry Vyell.	No bailiffs this year.
1376	Walter Derby.	Wm. Somervell.	Wm. Coombe, Tho. Knappe.
1377	Tho. Beaupeny.	Walter Studly.	Tho. Sampson, Wal. Tyddeley.
1378	Elias Spelly.	Wm. Coombe.	Wm. Elingham, John Stanes.
1379	John Stokes.	Tho. Knappe.	John Stanes, John Barstable.
1380	Walter Derby.	Wm. Somervell.	Rob. Candever, John Canynges.
1381	Wm. Canynges.	John Candever.	Walter Seymor, John Priston.
1382	Elias Spelly.	John Canynges.	John Stanes, Wm. Warmister.
1383	Tho. Beaupenny.	Rob. Candever.	John Somervell, Peter Barogh.
1384	Walter Derby.	Tho. Sampson.	John Young, Wm. Draper.
1385	Wm. Canynges.	John Somervell.	Roger Tucker, John Bright.
1386	Thomas Knappe.	Peter Barogh.	Wm. Froome, Thomas Athay.
1387	Wm. Somervell.	Wm. Froome.	Thomas Colston, John Snell.
1388	John Vyell.	Wm. Wodrowe.	Tho. Athay, John Stephens.
1389	Wm. Canynges.	John Barstable.	John Banbury, John Havering.
1390	Elias Spelly.	Tho. Athay.	Rob. Dudbrook, John Selwodde
1391	Thomas Knappe.	John de Banbury.	John Burtone, Ric. Hanteford.
1392	John Canynges.	Walter Seymour.	Tho. Norton, Ric. Brookworth.
1393	John Somervell.	John Havering.	Wm. Solers, Thomas Blunt.
1394	Wm. Froome.	John Stephens.	John Pryston, John Castle.
1395	John Barstable.	Roger Toker.	R ^t . Dudbrook, John de Sodbury.
1396	Thomas Knappe.	Wm. Warmister.	R ^t . Brookworth, John Hardwick.
1397	John Banbury.	John Pryston.	Wm. Draper, Henry Rokerill.

A. D.	MAYORS.	SHERIFFS.	BAILIFFS.
1398	John Canynges.	Robert Baxter.	John le Manner, John Sodbury.
1399	Thomas Knappe.	Thomas Blunt.	Tho. Glocester, Jeffry Barber.
1400	Wm. Froome.	Robert Dudbrook.	Mark Williams, John Seely.
1401	John Barstable.	Thomas Norton.	Rich. Paines, Simon Algod.
1402	John Stephens.	John Seely.	Thomas Young, Nich. Exetor.
1403	Thomas Knappe.	Thomas Glouster.	John Droyes, Adam Inhyng.
1404	Rob. Dudbrook.	John Droyes.	Robert Ruffell, Gilbert Joyce.
1405	John Barstable.	Mark Williams.	John Cleve, John Newton.
1406	John Droyse.	John Fisher.	Jam. Crokys, David Dudbrook.
1407	Thomas Blunt.	Thomas Young.	John Spyne, Robert Barstable.
1408	John Fisher.	John Olyffe.	John Shipward, John Leycester.
1409	John Droyse.	James Cokys.	John Sutton, Wm. Bendey.

In the parliament of the 10th of Henry the 4th. the commons of the counties of Somerset, Bristol and Wilts, exhibited their petition to the King to remove all wears and obstructions of the river Avon, which hindered the free passage of boats and other vessels to the public prejudice, and much enhanced the price of carriage by water betwixt Bath and Bristol. Before the time of Richard the 1st. the Avon to Bath was navigable, and wine, wax, salt, wool, skins and cloth used to be carried in vessels between Bath and Bristol; and there is a long deed (Clauſ. 4. Edw. 1. Pat. ii. M. 4.) being a writ directed to the mayor of Bristol, and Richard de Tikehull sheriff of Somerset, to see all wears and obstructions in the river Avon betwixt Bristol and Bath removed; that the said navigation be free and uninterrupted; which however in the succeeding reign was again obstructed and again ordered to be cleared.

1410	John Seely.	Nicholas Exeter.	Robert Clovelde, Walter Parle.
1411	Thomas Young.	John Spine.	Wm. Stephens, David Ruddeck.
1412	John Cleve.	John Sharpe.	Thomas Hendy, Wm. Barret.
1413	Thomas Norton.	John Newton.	Wm. Westerly, Walter Milton.
1414	John Droyes.	Robert Ruffell.	John Draper, John Milton.
1415	John Sharpe.	Wm. Bendy.	Nich Baggod, John Shipward.
1416	Thomas Blount.	David Dudbrook.	John Burtone, Nicholas Dennis.
1417	Robert Ruffell.	John Leycester.	Roger Levedon, Walter Milton.
1418	John Newton.	John Burtone.	Thomas Hollway, John Langley.
1419	James Cokis.	David Ruddock.	Henry Gildency, Thomas Fish.
1420	Thomas Young.	Roger Lavindon.	Rich. Trenolde, John Cotton.
1421	John Spyne.	Nicholas Baggod.	Richard Arves, Edmund Brown.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

BAILIFFS.

1422 Mark Williams. Richard Trenolde. Thomas Erle, John Peers.

A mint established at Bristol for coining.

1423 John Burtone. Thomas Holway. John Hethe, Richard Alexander.

1424 John Leycester. Thomas Earle. Thomas Hook, Walter Powell.

1425 John Cleve. Robert Cloveld. Walter Powel, John Snethe.

1426 Robert Ruffell. Nicholas Dennis. Clem. Baggod, Hugh Whitford.

1427 John Newton. John Sharpe. Andrew Parle, John Erle.

1428 Roger Levedon. Henry Gildney. John Talbot, John Triott.

1429 John Burtone. John Shipwarde. Richard Foster, John Albinton.

1430 John Leycester. Hugh Whitford. Wm. Dunster, John Papinham.

1431 Rich. Tranode. Clement Baggod. John Spicer, Nicholas Frome.

1432 John Sharpe. Richard Arfoise. Tho. Noreys, Wm. Canynges.

1433 John Fisher. Richard Foster. John English, Thomas Markes.

1434 Tho. Holeway. Thomas Fisher. Richard Roper, John Stanley.

1435 John Milton. John Spycer. Nicholas Hill, William Clyñche.

1436 Richard Foster. Walter Powel. William Coder, John Forde.

1437 Clement Baggod. Nicholas Frome. Thomas Hore, Thomas Balle.

1438 Hugh Whitford. Wm. Canynges. Thomas Mede, John Gosling.

1439 John Sharpe. Richard Roper. William Pavy, John Shipward.

1440 Nicholas Frome. John Stanley. John Whiteford, Wm. Howell.

1441 Wm. Canynges. John Shipward. Nicholas Stone, Robert Sturing.

1442 Clement Baggod. Nicholas Hill. Richard Hatter, Rich. Haddon.

1443 John Stanley. William Coder. Wm. Skermott, Wm. Powney.

1444 John Shipward. John Foord. Philip Mead, Thomas Rodgers.

1445-6 This year about St. Paul's tide Redcliff steeple was thrown down by a great tempest of thunder and lightning, and great damage was received by the said church, which was re-edified by the good devotion of Mr. William Canynges, merchant.

1445 Nicholas Hill. John Bolton. Richard Marshall, Rich. Bayly.

This year a charter was granted the town by Henry 6th. who came to Bristol at this time. He granted to hold and occupy the town to their successors unto the end and during the term of 60 years in reversion of 20 years to be ended. And moreover he granted to the mayor, &c. during the said term of 60 years certain liberties, franchises, &c. under a certain form, yielding and paying yearly to King Henry 6th. and his heirs at the end of the said 20 years, during the said term of 60 years, 102l. 15s. 6d. at the feast of Easter and St. Michael the archangel, by equal portions.

portions to the abbot of Tewkesbury 14l. 10s. to the prior of St. James of Bristol, and to his successors for the time being, for the annual rent of the mill of the said town, 3l. to the constable of the castle of Bristol, and his officers for the time being, that is to say, to the porter of the gate and watchmen of the castle, and to the forester of Kingwood, 39l. 14s. 6d. to be paid during the term of sixty years as aforesaid. He also granted all fines, forfeitures, &c. in as full manner as if he had retained the town in his own hands; so that the mayor and commonalty may levy, gather, and receive and retain all goods forfeited to the use and profit of the same mayor and commonalty and their successors for ever, and also have the court of view of frank-pledge, &c. (the escheat of lands and tenements in times to come happening being always excepted) all the before-mentioned privileges, liberties, &c. within the said town and precincts thereof happening or to happen he granted fully, and wholly to the mayor, &c. yielding and paying 102l. 15s. 6d. in manner as aforesaid.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

BAILIFFS.

1446 Richard Foster.	John Troyte.	William Deane, William Talbot.
1447 Richard Foster.	Thomas Balle.	William Rolph, John Wickham.
1448 John Burtone.	William Pavie.	John Eastmande, John Bennet.
1449 Wm. Canynges.	Thomas Hore.	Rich. Abberton, Wm. Spencer.
1450 John Burtone.	Robert Sturmy.	John Sharpe, junr. Wm. Dillyng.
1451 John Stanley,	Richard Hatter.	Robert Jakes, John Hofier.
1452 William Coder.	Thomas Mead.	Thomas Ash, William Raines.
1453 Robert Sturmy.	William Howell.	Nicholas Long, Tho. Keynsham.
1454 Richard Hatter.	Philip Mead.	William Hatton, John Cogon.
1455 John Shipward.	Thomas Rodgers.	John Baggott, Robert Bolton.
1456 Wm. Canynges.	William Daine.	Henry Chester, John Jay, senr.

This year Queen Margaret came to Bristol with her nobility.

1457 William Coder.	John Wickham.	John Clerke, Robert Ball.
1458 Philip Mead.	John Baggott.	John Hawks, John Jay, junr.
1459 Thomas Rodgers.	Robert Jakis.	John Gaywood, John Saint.
1460 Wm. Canynges.	Tho. Kenysson.	Wm. Woddington, Lewis Morris.
1461 Philip Mead.	William Spencer.	Robert Strange, Henry Balle.

Edward 4th. in September came to Bristol, and had Sir Baudwin Fulford, Bright, and Hessant, Esqrs. beheaded. See p. 220.

1462 John Wickham.	Rich. Alberton.	John Foster, Jeffry Griffith.
1463 John Shipward.	John Hawkins.	William Bird, Walter Coston.
1464 William Coder.	John Cogan.	William Rokye, John Gyton.

A. D.	MAYORS,	SHERIFFS.	BAILIFFS.
1465	William Spencer.	John George.	J. Shipward, junr. E. Westcot.
1466	Wm. Canynges.	John Gaywood.	Walter Grimsteed, Tho. Rowley.
1467	Robert Jakys.	John Hooper.	Wm. Wickham, John Skevyn.
1468	Philip Mead.	Robert Strange.	John Lancorton, John Goodard.
1469	John Shipward.	William Bird.	Henry Vaughan, John Powke.
1470	Tho. Kainsham.	Henry Chester.	John Stevens, William Dokett.
1471	John Hawkes.	Wm. Weddington.	John Powke, John Easterfield.
1472	John Cogan.	John Jay.	John Gurney, John Gregory.
1473	William Spencer.	Edmund Westcott.	John Swayne, Thomas Flexall.
1474	Robert Strange.	John Foster.	Thomas Hexton, Wm. Rowley.
1475	William Bird.	Thomas Rowley.	John Sing, Richard Sherman.
1476	John Baggott.	Wm. Wickham.	John Chester, Philip Caple.
1477	John Shipward.	Henry Vaughan.	John Batkok, Clement Wiltshire.
1478	William Spencer.	John Shyven.	John Drewes, Richard Bond.
1479	Edmund Westcott.	John Powke.	John Griffith, John Wofwall.
1480	Wm. Wodington.	William Duket.	Rob. Bonnok, John Houndeslow.
1481	John Foster.	John Pynke.	Wm. Regent, John Langforde.
1482	Robert Strange.	John Easterfield.	Thomas Spicer, Henry Dale.
1483	Henry Vaughan.	John Stephens.	John Vaughan, Wm. Gawnfell.
1484	Wm. Wickham.	John Swaine.	John Hemming, William Spycer.
1485	Edmund Westcott.	Richard Sherman.	Philip Kingston, Hugh Jones.
1486	Wm. Wickham.	John Snigg.	John Jay, Thomas ap Howell.
1487	John Easterfield.	John Chestre.	Nicholas Brown, John Walsh.
1488	John Pinke.	Clement Wiltshire.	John Howell, John Hurler.
1489	Robert Strange.	Thomas Spicer.	John Taylor, Robert Fourtie.
1490	John Stevens.	William Regent.	Rich. Vaughan, Geo. Mononx.

The stone bridge on the Were now made, and the streets new paved.

The city gave the King 500l. as a benevolence.

1491	William Toker.	Henry Dale.	David Cogan, John Fisher.
1492	Clement Wiltshire.	John Drewes.	John Popley, Roger Dawes.
1493	Henry Vaughan.	Philip Kingston.	John Keynes, Philip Green.
1494	John Easterfield.	Matthew Jubbes.	William Eastby, John Rowland.
1495	William Regent.	Nicholas Brown.	David Lyfton, John Jones.
1496	John Drewes.	Hugh Jones.	Thomas Vaughan, John Elliott.
1497	Henry Dale.	Richard Vaughan.	William Lane, John Spicer.
1498	Philip Kingston.	John Jay.	John Vaughan, Tho. Westcott.
1499	Nicholas Brown.	Philip Green.	Richard Hobby, Walter Rice.
1500	Rich. Vaughan.	Hugh Elliot and John Batten,	sheriffs this year.

A new charter granted this year from Henry 7th. to the corporation, that they shall have fix aldermen, the recorder to be one, with like powers as the aldermen of London, to be chosen for the first time by the mayor and common council, and always after by the aldermen. And that the two bailiffs to be chosen as of old hath been used, shall likewise be sheriffs of the county, and be sworn into and execute both offices. And the mayor and two of the aldermen, instead of the sheriffs as before, are (with the assent of the commonalty) to choose the forty common council-men, with the same powers as were granted to them by the charter of the 47th of Edward the 3d. And that for the future there shall be one chamberlain, who shall be elected by the mayor and common council in the Guildhall: the person so elected shall be a burges, and continue in that office so long as the mayor and common council shall please: he shall also take his oath to perform the office of chamberlain before the mayor, &c. and also shall have a seal affixed to his office, with the like powers as the chamberlain of the city of London. That if any of the town of Bristol, &c. for the future shall be disobedient to the ordinances of the mayor, aldermen, and common council, or shall be any ways abetting or cause disturbance on the election of the mayor, or any other officer whatsoever, the offender shall be punished according to the law of the kingdom of England, by the mayor and two of the aldermen. And also the said mayor shall have power to take the probates of wills of lands, tenements, rents, and tenures, within the said town, suburbs, and precincts of the same, bequeathed within two years after the death of the testator: so that such tenements and legacies be proclaimed in full court of the Guildhall of Bristol, and enrolled in the rolls of the same court, the enrolment shall be of record; and from thence the said mayor and his successors may have power to put the legacies aforesaid in execution by his officers in form of law, or by due process to be made before them by writ ex gravi querela, at the prosecution and election of any man who will prosecute the same. And that the mayor and one alderman may hold their courts, and such pleas and complaints as at any time before have been used and accustomed, for the time being for ever. And that all fines and amerciements shall come to the mayor and commonalty of the town, without accounting to the King, his heirs, or successors.

Also Henry the 7th. in the first year of his reign, dated at Westminster, September 24, did give and grant to Thomas Hoskins the office of bailiff of the water of the town of Bristol for term of his life, and at his decease it is granted to the mayor and commonalty to chuse one of the burgeses of the said town to that office, and he so to continue so long as it shall please the mayor
and

and aldermen of the said town for the time being, and he shall be named Bailiff of the Water, alias Water-Bailiff of the said town; and the mayor, &c. shall have power to nominate and constitute the wages, fees, &c. to the said office due and anciently accustomed, yielding to the King and his heirs a rent of four marks of lawful money of England yearly, at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and to be accountable for no more than the four marks as aforesaid to be paid for the same office. And we grant that any three of the said aldermen, whereof two of them shall be the mayor and recorder of the said town, may be justices of goal delivery within the town, and may have for the future for ever the like power with other justices of gaol delivery, saving always to the King and his heirs all amerciements at gaol delivery. These being witnesses, our most dear first-born son Arthur, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and others. Dated at Knoll, the 17th of December, in the 15th year of our reign, 1500. See p. 134.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1501 George Mollins. Thomas Snyg, Thomas Paruaunt.

1502 Hugh Jones, alias Brewer. John Collor, John Capell.

In the collection of public acts, upon the 9th of December this year, 1502, King Henry gave a patent to James Elliot and Thomas Ashurst, merchants of Bristol, and to John Gonfalez and Francis Fernandez, natives of Portugal, to go with English colours in quest of unknown countries, upon certain terms expressed in the patent.

1503 Henry Dale. Richard ap Merrick, William Bedford.

1504 David Cogan. William Jefferis, Edward Penson.

1505 Roger Dawes. Thomas Elliott, John Harris.

1506 Philip Ringston. William Edwards, John Attwillis.

1507 John Vaughan. John Edwards, Simon Jarvis.

1508 Richard Hoby. John Matthews, William Neal.

1509 John Capell. John Williams, John Wilkins.

1510 John Poplay. Robert Hutton, Ralph Aprys.

1511 John Rowland. John Hutton, Humphrey Brown.

1512 John Ellyott. Thomas Dale, Thomas Broke.

1513 William Bedford. William Wolley, John Shipman.

1514 Robert Thorn. John Ware, Richard Tonnell.

1515 Roger Dawes. Richard Abyngdon, William Vaughan.

1516 John Vaughan. Thomas Pacy, Edward Prynne.

1517 Richard Hoby. John Drewes, John Pepe.

1518 John Edwards. John Hall, William Dale.

A. D. MAYORS.

1519	John Williams.
1520	Roger Dawes.
1521	John Shipman.
1522	John Rowland.
1523	John Williams.
1524	John Hutton.
1525	Richard Abingdon.
1526	Thomas Broke.
1527	John Ware.
1528	Richard Tonnell.
1529	John Shipman.
1530	Thomas White.
1531	Thomas Pacy.
1532	Clement Bays.
1533	William Shipman.
1534	Roger Cook.

SHERIFFS.

Clement Bays, Robert Sailbrige.
William Shipman, Robert Aventry.
Robert Ellyott, Roger Coke.
Gilbert Cogan, William Chester.
Robert Chapman, John Davis.
Thomas Jefferis, John Spring
Henry White, John Jervis.
George Bathram, David Lawrence.
Thomas Nash, David Hutton.
Nicholas Thorn, John Thorn.
William Kelke, Thomas Silke.
George Hall, Robert Adams.
William Carey, John Mancell.
John Smith, William Pykes.
William Howell, Anthony Pain.
John Brampton, Nicholas Woodhouse.

The King and his train went to Thornbury and the mayor sent him ten fat oxen and forty sheep for his hospitality, and to Queen Ann a silver cup and cover with 100 marks of gold.

One manuscript says, King Henry 8th. went to Thornbury in his progress, and thence came disguised to Bristol with certain gentlemen to Mr. Thorn's house and secretly viewed the city, which Mr. Thorn shewed him, and he said to Mr. Thorn, "this is now but the towne of Bristol, but I will make it the city of Bristol," which he afterwards did by erecting it into a bishop's see. See p. 80, 279.

Great disputes about laymen's preaching in Bristol favoured by the mayor, and priests sent to Newgate.

1535	John Hutton.	Thomas Hart, John Northall.
1536	Richard Abingdon.	Richard Prinn, Thomas Moore.
1537	William Chester.	Thomas Winsmore, Rowland Cowper.
1538	Thomas Jeffreys.	David Harris, William Jay.

George Wifard, an heretic, preached in St. Nicholas church, and was ordered to bear a faggot for his erroneous doctrine.

1539	Roger Cook.	William Rowley, William Young.
1540	John Springe. See p. 379.	William Spratt, Richard Morfe.
1541	Robert Elliot.	Richard Watley, Robert Saxfe.
1542	Henry White.	William Ballard, William Pepwall.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

- 1543 Thomas Pacy, senr. Francis Codrington, Thomas Landfdown.
The litany was first sung in English in a general procession from
Christ Church unto St. Mary Redcliff.
- 1544 Nicholas Thorn. John Gurney, Roger Jones.
- 1545 Robert Adams. William Carr, Robert Davis.
- 1546 William Cary. John A Wellis, Thomas Joackym.
- 1547 John Smyth. Thomas Harris, William Tindall.
- 1548 William Pyckes. Edward Tynte, John Mathews.
- 1549 William Jay. Edward Prynne, John Stone.
- 1550 David Harris. Roger Milward, Thomas Sheward.
- 1551 Roger Cook. William Jones, Nicholas Williams.
- 1552 William Chester. Thomas Tyson, Anthony Standback.
- 1553 John Northall. John Pikes sen. Thomas Pikes jun.
- 1554 John Smyth. Giles White, John Cutt.

He died in his mayoralty and was buried in St. Werburgh's church,
he was ancestor of the Smyths of Long-Ashton, see p. 484.

- 1555 William Young. Thomas Shipman, John Griffiths.
- 1556 Robert Saxfe. George Snigg, William Butler.

In this year Queen Mary incorporated the Merchant Adventurers to
Russia into a company, consisting of 4 consuls and 24 assistants; and
Sebastian Cabot born in Bristol of Genevise parents was constituted the
first governor, being the chief encourager of this branch of trade.

- 1557 William Pepwall. William Tucker, Arthur Richards.
- 1558 Robert Adams. John Brown, John Prewett.
- 1559 Roger Jones. Thomas Chester, Thomas Kelke.
- 1560 William Carr. Michael Sowdelay, George Higgins.
- 1561 John Reekes. John Wade, Thomas Colston.

This year the citizens of Bristol by the industry and cost of this
mayor, were clearly exempted and freed for ever from the marches of
Wales, which had been very burdensome to them.

- 1562 John Stone. John Roberts, William Belfher.
- 1563 Nicholas Williams. Thomas Young, Richard Davis.
- 1564 Anthony Standback. Edmund Jones, Thomas Slocomb.
- 1565 John Northall. William Young, John Jones.

A wind-mill was erected on Brandon-Hill by Mr. Read the town's
attorney, where before the chapel of St. Brandon stood.

- 1566 John Cutt. Phillip Langley, Thomas Aldworth.

A. D.	MAYORS.	SHERIFFS.
1567	William Pepwall.	Dominick Chester, Walter Pykes.
1568	John Stone.	Thomas Kyrkland, Robert Smith.
1569	Thomas Chester.	Thomas Rowland, Richard Cole.
1570	William Tucker.	William Hicks, John Barnes.
1571	John Stone.	Thomas Warren, Randolph Haffell.
1572	John Brown.	William Gibbons, Robert Kitchen.
1573	Thomas Kelke.	Edward Porter, William Bird.
1574	George Snigg.	William Salterne, Robert Halton.
1575	John Prewett.	Michael Pepwall, Nicholas Blake.
1576	John Wade.	John Ash, Richard Ashurst.
1577	Thomas Colston.	William Hopkins, Walter Standfast.
1578	John Roberts.	William Prewett, Ralph Dole.
1579	Thomas Young.	George Bathram, Francis Knight.
1580	Thomas Slocombe.	William Parfey, William Yate.
1581	Philip Langley.	Bartholomew Cook, Humpry Andrews.

By charter this year Queen Elizabeth granted the town 6 more aldermen added to the former 6, with the like powers according to the directions of this and other charters; agreeable to this charter 6 aldermen were sworn this year, and the city was divided into 12 wards, over which were set 11 aldermen, the recorder always made the 12th.

1582	Thomas Aldworth.	Thomas Pollington, John Webb.
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A letter wrote by this mayor to Sir F. Walsingham, extant in Hackluit's Voy. v. 3. p. 182. dated March 27, 1583, concerning the Bristol merchants furnishing 1000 marks and two ships, one of 60, the other a bark of 40 tons, for the discovery of the coast of America S. W. of Cape Breton, and their zeal for the western discovery was greatly commended in a letter from that her Majesty's principal secretary.

1583	Walter Pykes.	Walter Davis, William Ellis.
1584	Thomas Rowland.	Rice Jones, Richard Kelke.
1585	Richard Cole.	Henry Gough, John Hart.

The 17th of March the Earl of Pembroke came from Wales to Bristol to review the trained bands, and he taking the upper hand of the mayor, notice thereof being given to the Queen, she sent for him by post to court and he was committed to the Tower for a time, he paid a fine for the offence.

1586	William Hicks.	Edward Long, John Hopkins.
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A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

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|------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1587 | John Barnes. | William Vawer, Ralph Hurt. |
| 1588 | Robert Kitchen. | Nicholas Hobbs, John Oliver. |

Four ships were this year fitted out from Bristol to join the Queen's fleet at Plymouth against the Spaniards, their names were the Unicorn, the Minion, the Handmaid, and the Ayde. — The 23d of July the Spanish Armada was destroyed by our fleet, we took 15 great ships and 4791 men, in our Channel. — All the canvas that was brought to the Back-Hall was bought up and sent to London to make field tents, particularly for the camp at Tilbury. — We took upon the coast of Ireland in September 17 more ships and 5394 men, in all 32 ships and 10,185 men.

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|------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1589 | William Bird. | John Whitson, Christopher Kedgwin. |
| 1590 | John Hopkins. | George Snow, Hugh Griffith. |
| 1591 | Walter Standfast. | Thomas James, Walter Williams. |
| 1592 | Thomas Aldworth. | Richard May, John Young. |
| 1593 | Michael Pepwall. | John Barker, Richard Smith. |
| 1594 | Francis Knight. | Matthew Haviland, Thomas Pitcher. |
| 1595 | William Parfey. | Richard Rogers, John Sly. |
| 1596 | William Yate. | John Boucher, Robert Aldworth. |
| 1597 | John Webb. | John Englesfield, Richard George. |

This year was a scarcity of provision in Bristol, every person of ability was obliged to keep as many poor persons in their houses as their income would permit, for fear of an insurrection, wheat being then sold for 20s. a bushel, malt at 8s. Rye at 10s. Dantzic Rye at 5s. The parliament in the year 1601 appointed a weekly relief for the poor in every parish, and the manner how it should be raised.

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| 1598 | William Ellis. | William Cary, Abel Kitchen. |
| 1599 | John Hart. | William Colston, John Harrison. |
| 1600 | John Hopkins. | John Boulton, Thomas Hopkins. |
| 1601 | William Vawer. | William Hopkins, John Fownes. |
| 1602 | Ralph Hurt. | Thomas Farmer, John Aldworth. |
| 1603 | John Whitson. | William Barnes, George Richards. |
| 1604 | Christopher Kedgwin. | William Cole, George Harrington. |
| 1605 | Thomas James. | John Rowbrough, John Guy. |
| 1606 | John Barker. | Thomas Packer, John Doughty. |

This year upon the 20th of January, being Tuesday morning, at high-water there arose so great a flood that the sea broke down the banks and drowned all the marsh country.

1607

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

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|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1607 | Matthew Haviland. | Robert Rogers, Arthur Neads. |
| 1608 | John Boucher. | Thomas Moor, William Young. |
| 1609 | Robert Aldworth. | Thomas Aldworth, William Challoner. |

This mayor was a great adventurer in trade and successful in merchandize. John Guy returned from Newfoundland from settling a colony, leaving his son there. The great scarcity of corn the preceding year was now succeeded with a most plentiful harvest.

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|------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1610 | John Eglesfield. | Thomas Whitehead, William Pitt. |
| 1611 | William Cary. | William Burroughs, Henry Gibbs. |

Mr. John Guy, with a preacher and several men and women, returned to Newfoundland to his son.

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|------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1612 | Abel Kitchen. | Christopher Cary, John Barker. |
| 1613 | Francis Knight. | Christopher Whitson, John Gunning. |

Queen Ann came to Bristol, and was presented by the mayor with a rich embroidered purse of gold, and attended in a grand procession of the trained bands and others to her lodgings at Sir John Young's, St. Augustine's-back, when she was saluted with 42 great guns. Sunday she went to the college, and Monday a sham fight at high tide was exhibited for her entertainment, and Tuesday she went to Bath. She was so pleased with her reception here, that she gave the mayor a gold ring set with diamonds worth 60l. saying, "she never knew she was a Queen till she came to Bristol."

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| 1614 | Thomas James. | John Langton, Humphrey Hook. |
| 1615 | John Whitson. | William Baldwin, John Tomlinson. |
| 1616 | Thomas Farmer. | Henry Yate, Henry Hobson. |
| 1617 | George Harrington. | Matthew Warren, William Turner. |
| 1618 | John Guy. | Thomas Cecil, Thomas Wright. |
| 1619 | Thomas Packer. | William Lisset, Humphrey Brown. |
| 1620 | John Doughty. | Andrew Charlton, Peter Millard. |
| 1621 | Robert Rogers. | Richard Holworthy, Richard Long. |
| 1622 | William Young. | Edward Cox, William Jones. |
| 1623 | William Pitt. | Oliver Snell, Ezekiel Wallis. |
| 1624 | Henry Gibbes. | William Pitt, junr. Nathaniel Boucher. |
| 1625 | John Barker. | George Knight, John Taylor. |

By act of common council Brandon-hill was adjudged to the mayor and sheriffs, but the citizens were allowed to dry clothes there.

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| 1626 | Christopher Whitson. | John Lock, Walter Ellis. |
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A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1627 John Gunning.

Richard Aldworth, Richard Plea.

This mayor gave 10s. per week whilst he lived to good uses, as did Alderman Kitchen at his death.

1628 John Langton.

Alexander James, Francis Crefwick.

1629 Humphrey Hook.

Thomas Colston, Giles Elbridge.

1630 John Tomlinsoa.

Derrick Poppely, Gabriel Sherman.

Charles 1st. by a charter granted that the castle, with the walls, banks, ditches, houses, gardens, &c. within the precincts of the castle be henceforth for ever separated from the county of Gloucester, and made part of the city and county of Bristol, and to be within the bounds, jurisdiction, and authority of the mayor, sheriffs, coroners, and justices, &c. and that no officer of the county of Gloucester intermeddle, and that all the inhabitants of the castle shall be made freemen of Bristol, and that the mayor shall answer alike for the castle, although it be parcel of the crown lands, &c. Dated at Westminster, 13 April, 5th year of his reign. See p. 224.

1631 Henry Yate.

John Gunning, junr. Miles Jackson.

The castle was purchased of Charles 1st. who granted it to the corporation for the sum of 959l. in reversion after three lives, which they also bought off afterwards. See p. 225. They paid the King 40l. per annum rent, which was purchased of the crown in Charles 2d's. time. See p. 134.

1632 Henry Hobson.

Thomas Jackson, William Fitzherbert.

1633 Matthew Warren.

Robert Elliott, Thomas Floyd.

1634 Andrew Charlton.

John Langton, junr. Thomas Hook.

1635 Richard Holworthy.

William Cann, William Hobson.

It appeared by the Custom-house books the city paid yearly above 25000l. for customs; and towards fitting out a fleet against France and Holland in league, meditating some stroke against this nation, Bristol gave 2163l. 13s. 4d.

1636 Richard Long.

Richard Vickris, Thomas Woodward.

1637 William Jones.

Edward Peters, William Wyatt.

1638 Ezekiel Wallis.

George Hellier, Luke Hodges.

From September to December the city was never free from commissioners and pursuivants, who examined on oath merchants what commodities they had sent to sea, what entries were made at the Custom-house, what foreign goods imported, &c. for years past? Agreeable

to these informations they examined, whereby some were compelled to accuse one another, and were sent for up to London. Shopkeepers also were examined, and had great imposts laid on them. Soap-makers paid 4l. custom per ton for soap, the brewers forty marks per annum for a commission, which were such grievances that it soured the nation much against the king and government, &c. Four aldermen and some merchants went to complain to the King concerning the above severe usage, on the city's behalf. His Majesty embraced them most graciously, and was sorry that by wrong information he had granted such oppressive commissions, which then however he could not recall; but gave them liberty to prefer a bill against them in the Star Chamber, and retain counsellors to plead for them before the privy council; for before these commissioners, were lords and judges over them. They staid at great expence for trial, but it could not be determined; his Majesty wished them to follow their suit, and when it came to the highest his grace would mediate between them. To add to these troubles, corn was scarce this year and sold for 9s. a bushel, and would soon have been 20s. if a great quantity of French wheat and other grain had not been imported into Bristol and other ports.

The 28th of July this year, a ship was launched at the end of the Quay, in which eleven boys were drowned, and she was called thence the Drown Boy.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1639 George Knight.

Matthew Warren, Walter Deyos.

1640 John Taylor.

Henry Gibbs, Edward Pitt.

1641 John Lock.

Richard Balman, Robert Yeamans.

The latter part of this year, war was begun by the Parliament against the King. Denzil Hollis was nominated as fit to command the militia at Bristol. He subscribed 1000l. against the King.

1642 Richard Aldworth.

Joseph Jackson, Hugh Brown.

October 23, the castle of Bristol was repaired and the walls round the city, a fort made at Brandon-hill, and another on St. Michael's-hill near the windmill afterwards turned to a royal pentagonal fort. Two regiments under Col. Effex were, by the management of the mayor's wife, Mrs. Rogers, and Mrs. Vickris, let into the city. A weekly assessment was made by the Parliament on all cities and counties. Bristol paid 55l. 15s. per week, levied upon all lands, goods, money, flock, &c. in the manner of a land tax, (which was a precedent whence the land tax was afterwards taken.) Besides, many were obliged to a heavy composition to save the remainder of their estates. The mob having now the rule, the better sort of inhabitants dared not appear in

In the streets without being grossly insulted by the rebellious rabble, and if they went out of town they were taken up and sent to prison. See p. 227.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1643 Humphrey Hook. Henry Creswick, William Colston.
August 2, the King, Charles 1st. came to Bristol, and Sunday went to college.

1644 Alexander James. Nathaniel Cale, William Bevan.

1645 John Gunning. John Young, Walter Stephens.

The pestilence raged in the city, about 3000 died.

1646 Richard Vickris, Walter Sandby, Edward Tyson.

1647 Gabriel Sherman. Arthur Farmer, George White.

1648 William Cann. Robert Challoner, Robert Yate.

This mayor did in his year proclaim no King to be in England, and the successors of Charles 1st. to be traitors to the state. He was the first that did it, after it was refused by the Lord Mayor of London.

1649 Miles Jackson. William Dale, William Yeamans.

1650 Hugh Brown. James Crofts, George Hort.

The walls about the Royal fort made by order of Parliament, who gave 1000l. towards it.

1651 Joseph Jackson. George Lane, Robert Cann.

1652 Henry Gibbs. Thomas Amory, Jonathan Blackwell.

1653 George Hellier. John Pope, Thomas Bubb.

Quakers came first to Bristol.

1654 John Gunning. John Lawford, Christopher Griffith.

1655 Walter Deyos. Thomas Harris, John Bowing.

1656 Richard Balman. Robert Vickris, John Harper.

Oliver Cromwell, November 10, sent for James Nailor, Dorcas Erbury, and other Quaker preachers, to London. The Parliament passed sentence on Nailor to stand in the pillory two hours, and then to be whipped by the common hangman, his tongue to be bored through with a hot iron, and his forehead to be stigmatized with the letter B, and then to be sent to Bristol to be there publicly whipped:—a severe sentence!

1657 Arthur Farmer. John Willoughby, Henry Appleton.

December 8, 1657. This day was received a letter from the Lord Protector as follows:

Oliver, P.

Trusty and well beloved, we greet you well: remembering well the late expressions of love that I have had from you, I cannot omit any opportunity to

P P P P 2

express

expres my care of you. I do hear on all hands, that the cavalier party are designing to put us into blood. We are, I hope, taking the best care we can by the blessing of God to obviate this danger; but our intelligence on all hands being that they have a design upon your city, we could not but warn you thereof, and give you authority as we do hereby to put yourselves into the best posture you can for your own defence, by raising your militia by virtue of the commission formerly sent you, and putting them in a readiness for the purpose aforesaid; letting you also know that for your better encouragement herein, you shall have a troop of horse sent you to quarter in or near your town. We desire you to let us hear, from time to time, what occurs touching the malignant party, and so we bid you farewell. Given at Whitehall, this 2d December, 1657.

To our trusty and well beloved the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of Bristol.

In pursuance of this command, the city was put into a posture of defence, by raising the militia.

A. D. MAYORS.

1658 Walter Sandy.
1659 Edward Tyson.
1660 Henry Creswick.
1661 Nathaniel Cale.
1662 Sir Robert Cann.
1663 Sir John Knight.

SHERIFFS.

Edward Morgan, Nathaniel Collins.
Francis Glead, Timothy Parker.
Richard Grigson, Thomas Langton.
Thomas Stephens, John Hicks.
John Wright, Sir Robert Yeamans.
John Broadway, Richard Stremer.

The 5th of September, the King and Queen, with James Duke of York and his Dutcheſs, and Prince Rupert, &c. came to Bristol, and were splendidly received and entertained by the mayor, at a dinner provided on the occasion. They returned to Bath at four o'clock, 150 pieces of ordnance were discharged in the Marsh at three distinct times.

1664 John Lawford.

John Knight, Ralph Oliffe.

Charles 2d. confirmed the charters of Charles 1st. of 1630, 1631.

1665 John Willoughby.
1666 Sir Thomas Langton.
1667 Edward Morgan.
1668 Thomas Stephens.
1669 Sir Robert Yeamans.
1670 John Knight.
1671 John Hickes.

William Crabb, Richard Crump.
John Floyd, Joseph Creswick.
Henry Gough, John Aldworth.
Humphrey Little, Richard Hart.
Charles Powel, Edward Hurn.
Thomas Day, Thomas Easton.
Richard Stubbs, Thomas Earle.

A. D. MAYORS.

1672 Christopher Griffith.

1673 Richard Stremer.

1674 Ralph Oliffe.

1675 Sir Robert Cann.

1676 William Crabb.

1677 Richard Crump.

1678 Sir John Lloyd.

1679 Joseph Crefwick.

1680 Richard Hart.

1681 Sir Thomas Earle.

1682 Thomas Easton.

1683 Sir William Clutterbuck.

SHERIFFS.

Edward Young, John Cook.

John Cicil, John Dyer.

Samuel Wharton, Edward Fielding.

Charles Williams, George Lane.

Henry Gliffon, Henry Merrett.

William Donning, John Moore.

William Jackson, William Clutterbuck.

William Hayman, William Swimmer.

Abraham Saunders, Arthur Hart.

Sir John Kight, Richard Lane.

John Coombes, George Hart.

Nathaniel Driver, Edmund Arundel.

A quo warranto being brought against the old charter, it was resigned into the King's hands.

1684 Sir William Hayman.

Giles Merrick, James Twyford.

Charles 2d. granted a new charter, by which he confirms it as a city incorporate and county within itself with the same bounds usually enjoyed, and grants the same powers to the mayor and two sheriffs, &c. that they may have a common seal, and take the oaths of allegiance and the oaths appointed by act of parliament for corporations; that the common council men may not exceed forty-three, to continue for their natural lives, who are to have power to make laws, &c. but not contrary to the statutes of the realm, and to be in force but one year if the Lord Chancellor approves thereof. The mayor and sheriffs to be always chosen the 15th of September, and all the oaths administered the 29th. If the mayor or sheriff die, another to be elected by the common council. A recorder to be chosen a barrister of five years standing, to be approved under the royal hand. That there be twelve aldermen, the recorder to be the senior alderman. That they be resident in the city, and no one elected for mayor, sheriff, or alderman that shall voluntarily absent himself when to be sworn, and a fine not exceeding 500l. be imposed on those refusing to be chosen, unless they swear they are not worth 2000l. The mayor and aldermen to be justices of the peace, and to punish offenders at the sessions four times a year. That a town clerk be chosen by them, a barrister of three years; and a steward of the sheriffs' court, also two coroners. The mayor, &c. to have the regulation of the markets, and may have three fairs for wool, &c. the 18th of April, the 10th of June, and the first Thursday after Michaelmas, to be kept in King's-street; and five other fairs for horses, &c. the

A. D.

25th of January in Temple-street, on the 25th and 26th of March at Redcliff-Hill, on the 25th and 26th of May in Broadmead, on the 25th, 26th and 27th of September in Temple-street, and on the 25th, 26th and 27th of November on Redcliff-Hill; also that they may keep the piedpowder-court there at the said fairs, with the liberties and customs thereof. 1683, witness myself at Westminster the 2d of June, the 36th year of our reign. **PIGOT.**

MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1685

Abraham Saunders.

William Merrick, Robert Yate.

On the 25th of June a great alarm in Bristol of the Duke of Monmouth's coming hither from Taunton and Wells: which caused a great stir.—The Duke of Beaufort, Lord Lieutenant of the city, drew up 21 companies of foot in Redcliff-Mead.

The Duke of Monmouth certainly was on his March towards the city of Bristol, abounding in money, arms, stores, and in his own friends, intending to make an attempt upon it, because he was assured of assistance from within: but the Duke of Beaufort having declared to the citizens that he would set fire to the town if they made an insurrection; Monmouth is reported to have said, "God forbid that I should bring the two calamities of fire and sword together on so noble a city!" and marched towards Bath: from whence he retired to Frome, and thence to Bridgwater, where from the top of a high tower he took the last view of a country he foresaw he must soon quit: whence perceiving Lord Feversham's horse and foot lying at a distance on King's Sedgmore, from each other and carelessly encamped, he resolved instantly to attack them in the night, but was defeated, and taken afterwards near Ringwood in Dorsetshire, lying in a ditch covered with fern in the habit of a peasant; he had some green pease in his pocket on which he had subsisted, with his George of diamonds, having not slept for three nights; from exhaustion of spirits he fainted and wept.—He was tried and condemned the 15th of July this year to be beheaded, then 30 years old.

Judge Jefferies came to Bristol and opened his commission with a long speech full of asperity against the citizens of Bristol, accusing the mayor &c. of pride, and of kidnapping away and selling abroad to his advantage fellows that had been brought before him for small crimes, and making them compound to go abroad &c. recorded in the life of Lord Keeper North.—He condemned six men here for high treason, three were reprieved.

1685

William Swymmer.

George Morgan, Edward Tocknell.

1687

A. D. MAYORS.

1687 Thomas Day.

SHERIFFS.

Thomas Saunders, Thomas Hine.

The 13th of January there came a letter and order of council from King James for displacing the present members of the corporation, and placing others therein named in their room, which was accordingly done.

The 9th of April this year the declaration was brought hither for indulging all persons in their religion of what kind soever, and in building meeting-houses, acquainting the next justice of peace therewith: for which the dissenters presented an address of thanks from all parts of the kingdom.—The panick that now had pervaded all ranks of people lest popery should be introduced under this mask, and the dread of many losing their lands that once belonged to some abby, operated so powerfully, that neither this declaration nor his immediate order for restoring corporations displaced, would avail: many great men and bishops, see page 332, sided with the Prince of Orange, and many military officers deserted to him.

1688 Wm. Jackson.

John Lyfton, Joseph Jackson.

The old corporation was restored by the King's proclamation, which concluded with "his gracious intention of calling a parliament as soon as the general disturbance of his kingdom by the intended invasion will admit thereof." But the 5th of November the Prince of Orange landed in England; and the 13th of Feb. 1688-9 he and his Princess were proclaimed King and Queen, and on the 15th so proclaimed here; whereby our civil and religious liberties were secured on the firmest basis, the bill of rights obtained, and magna charta and our glorious constitution in church and state invariably established,—now admired and envied by all the world.

1689 Arthur Hart.

John Bubb, John Blackwell.

1690 Sir John Knight.

Robert Dowting, John Yeamans.

1691 Richard Lane.

Thomas Bradway, Thomas Opie.

Bishop Hall occasioned the establishing of the clergy society's feast.

1692 Edmund Arundel.

James Pope, Henry Coombes.

1693 Robert Yate.

Marmaduke Bowdler, John Batchelor.

1694 Sir Thomas Day.

John Hawkins, Sir Wm. Daines.

Froom-Gate taken down with the house over it.

1695 Samuel Wallis.

Wm. Lewis, Wm. French.

1696 John Hine.

Peter Saunders, Francis Whitchurch.

1697

A. D. MAYORS.

1697 John Bubb.
 1698 John Blackwell.
 1699 John Batchelor.
 1700 Sir Wm. Daines.
 1701 John Hawkins.

SHERIFFS.

Nathaniel Day, John Day.
 George Stevens, John Swymmer.
 Wm. Whitehead, James Holledge.
 Robert Bound, Isaac Davis.
 Samuel Bayly, Richard Bayly.

The coronation day of Queen Ann was celebrated here with great solemnity, and much pageantry displayed by the young men and maidens drest with ribbons and wearing coronets of laurel leaves gilded, attended with music, and the procession was very noble and grand, the ships were drest out, as well as the churches, gates and houses, cannons firing and bells ringing, windows all illuminated, the whole concluded with burning the figure of the Pope with a triple crown.

1702 Sir Wm. Lewis. Abraham Elton, Christopher Shuter.
 1703 Peter Saunders. Thomas Hort, Henry Whitehead.

A great storm of wind and rain that drowned all the marsh country, and all the cellars and warehouses in Bristol were filled, to the very great damage and loss of the merchants; the boats sent hence saved the lives of many found upon trees &c.

1704 Francis Whitchurch. Anthony Swymmer, Henry Walter.

The number of alehouses here were limited to 220, stage plays forbid within the jurisdiction of the city.

1705 Nathaniel Day. Morgan Smith, Nathaniel Webb.
 1706 George Stevens. Abraham Hook, Nicholas Hicks.
 1707 Wm. Whitehead. Onesiphorus Tindall, Thomas Tyler.
 1708 James Hollidge. Philip Freke, John Day.

A scarcity of corn, and it being bought up by the merchants to send abroad, occasioned an insurrection of the colliers, which was appeased by reducing the price of wheat to 6s. 8d. per bushel.

1709 Robert Bound. James Haynes, Thomas Clements.

The new custom-house in Queen-Square was built by the corporation, at the expence of 2777l. 7s. 5d.

1710 Abraham Elton. Edmund Mountjoy, Abraham Elton, jun.

Queen Ann renewed the charter of Bristol, (see Bristol charters, p. 273,) confirming all former charters and liberties, and granting pardon to the mayor and other officers for having executed their offices without approbation under the royal signet, contrary to the charter of the 36th of Charles the 2d. and releasing all such powers in said charter reserved

ferred of approbation of such offices to which they shall be chosen; and releasing all power in the crown of removing any mayor or other officer, &c. Dated 24 July, 1710.

Twenty marks sterling to be paid as a fine into the Queen's hanniper.

Cowper, chancellor.

The annual dinner of the Loyal Society was held the 2d of November, Mr. Colston's birth-day, who could not come being aged, and was represented by the Most Noble Henry Duke of Beaufort.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1711 Christopher Shuter. William Bayly, Poole Stokes.

An act of parliament was procured, at the expence of the Duke of Beaufort, to compleat the navigation betwixt Bristol and Bath; though thirteen years elapsed before any thing was done, when by dividing the expence into thirty-two shares, it was set about by subscription, and completed December 27, 1727, when the first barge was brought to Bath from Bristol, laden with deals, lead, and meal.

1712 Thomas Hort. Richard Gravet, Henry Watts.

1713 Anthony Swymmer. John Becher, Henry Swymmer.

1714 Henry Whitehead. William Whitehead, Richard Taylor.

1715 Henry Walter. James Donning, Joseph Jefferies.

Lord Berkeley was made Lord Lieutenant of this city.

1717 John Day. Henry Nash, John Price.

1718 Edmund Mountjoy. Samuel Stokes, Edward Foy.

1719 Abraham Elton. Arthur Taylor, John King.

1720 Henry Watts. Robert Addison, Jacob Elton.

The new wharf on the Back, opposite King-street, built by the city, at the expence of 1053l. 3s.

1721 John Becher. John Rich, Noblet Ruddock.

1722 Henry Swymmer. Robert Smyth, Lionel Lyde.

A new gunpowder repository built at Tower Harris, which cost the corporation 143l. 18s. 5d.

1723 James Donning. John Blackwell, Nathaniel Wraxhall.

1724 Joseph Jefferies. Nathaniel Day, William Jefferies.

1725 Robert Earle. Michael Puxton, Stephen Clutterbuck.

1726 Peter Day. Ezekiel Longman, Henry Coombe.

An act obtained for erecting turnpikes round the city; but the colliers, not being exempted from paying and under-hand encouraged, cut down and entirely destroyed them.

The wharf continued to be built on the Back behind the Square for 180 feet forward. It cost the chamber 488l. 12s. 7d.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1727 Henry Nash.

Richard Bayly, John Bartlet.

1728 John Price.

Henry Lloyd, Abraham Eton.

1729 Samuel Stokes.

John Barrow, John Day.

1730 Edward Foy.

Edward Buckler, William Barnsdale.

The first incendiary letters ever known in the kingdom were sent to divers persons here, threatening to fire their houses if they did not leave ten guineas in certain places. Mr. Packer, ship-builder, had his house burnt down in consequence, which so alarmed the city that it caused a double watch till six in the morning. A reward of 400l. was offered. One Power, an Irish attorney, was taken up on strong proof and circumstances; but he got some to swear so, that he was cleared.

1731 Arthur Taylor.

Edward Cooper, William Barnes.

1732 John King.

John Foy, Buckler Weeks.

1733 Jacob Elton.

Michael Pope, Benjamin Gliffon.

The great crane at the Gibb built by the ingenious Mr. Padmore, and the dock compleated at the expence of the Merchants' Society.— See the print, p. 87. The Prince of Orange visited this city.

1734 John Rich.

Thomas Curtis, James Laroche.

Two petitions were presented to the parliament against the return of Mr. Coster for member, which being thought afterwards unjust and ill-grounded were withdrawn. This however occasioned much ill will among the citizens, see p. 161. as Mr. Coster was a very unexceptionable candidate, a sensible and worthy man, and resident in Bristol. He lies buried in the cathedral, see p. 209. with a handsome monument and elegant Latin inscription.

1735 Lionel Lyde.

David Peloquin, John Clements.

1736 John Blackwell.

Morgan Smith, Abraham Elton.

1737 Nathaniel Day.

Joseph Eyles, Henry Dampier.

This mayor fixed up the table of the loan money and benefactors for public inspection in the Council-house, see p. 136. and made many improvements in the city.

1738 William Jefferies.

John Combe, Giles Bayly.

His Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales and Augusta his Princess came hither from Bath, and were met by the mayor, &c. at Temple-gate, where a platform was erected for the corporation dressed in

in their scarlet gowns to salute them on their coming, and the recorder delivered a speech to them. All the trading companies, with their flags, &c. walked in procession before their coach up High-street and along the Quay to Queen-square to Mr. Combes's. After he had received the compliments of the clergy, gentlemen, &c. he was conducted to the Merchants'-hall, where an elegant dinner was provided, and a ball at night. They lay at Mr. Combes's that night, and returned the next morning at ten o'clock to Bath, highly pleased with their entertainment here.

The library, built at the expence of the chamber, amounting to 1600l. in the whole, was finished this year. See p. 508.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1739 Stephen Clutterbuck.

Michael Becher, David Dehany.

1740 Henry Combe.

Walter Jenkins, William Martin.

The 10th of March the first stone was laid for the foundation of the new Exchange. See p. 459.

1741 John Bartlett.

John Chamberlain, Henry Muggleworth.

1742 Abraham Elton.

William Cofsley, Jeremiah Ames.

1743 John Berrow.

Isaac Elton, John Durbin.

1744 John Day.

John Foy, Buckler Weeks.

1745 William Barnes.

Thomas Marsh, John Noble.

The Pretender's Son, having now formed a large body of highlanders, was advanced into England as far as Derby, and threw the kingdom into the utmost consternation. Consultations were every where held, for putting themselves into the best posture of defence. Numbers of the citizens here met at the Merchants'-hall, and there signed a parchment, containing their resolution to stand by King George and the Royal Family; and on another they subscribed their names to such sums as they intended to contribute for raising men for the King's use, which at length amounted to 36,450l. They gave about 5l. a man to enlist, and above 60 were sent to be incorporated in the King's guards, London.

Monday the 7th of October the Trial privateer, and her prize which she had taken, bound to Scotland with firelocks and other warlike stores, having on board 6000l. in money and a number of men, came into Kingroad. Two Irishmen taken on board the prize were sent to London in a coach and six horses the Thursday following.

Also two London privateers, the 12th of July, landed here the money taken in two Spanish ships, which was deposited in the Custom-house, where it was weighed. Its weight and value was as follows:

Q q q q 2

1093

						Cwt.	qrs.	lb.
1093	Chests of silver, weight, gros	-	-	-	-	1573	2	10
	Tare, at 10 per cent.	-	-	-	-	97	2	10
						Neat	-	1476 0 0

1476 Cwt. weight neat is 2,644,992 ounces, at 5s. 6d. per ounce, comes in sterling money to 727,372l. 16s.

Besides five chests of wrought plate, several tons of cocoa, a gold church in miniature, and several other valuable things. It was conveyed to London in twenty-two waggons, guarded by soldiers.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1746 Edward Cooper.

Henry Swymmer, Richard Farr, junr.

It is remarkable, that at this time William Cann, Esq; town clerk, John Mitchell his clerk, and James Britton the under clerk, officers under the corporation, were all mad. The former cut his throat with a pruning knife, but not mortally; the two latter were sent to the mad house at the Fishponds.

1747 John Fry.

John Berrow, Giles Bayly.

1748 Buckler Weeks.

Joseph Daltera, Isaac Baugh.

The market sheds on the Back to secure the corn were finished.

1749 Thomas Curtis.

William Barnes, John Curtis.

1750 James Laroche.

George Wear, Joseph Love.

A great storm of wind in January, and on the 8th of February an earthquake in London, and felt also here.

Two ships, fitted out here for the whale fishery at Greenland, arrived with two whales; the blubber was boiled at Seamills. This lucrative trade is not revived since. The naturalization bill of foreign Protestants was opposed by the citizens of Bristol.

1751 David Peloquin.

Henry Dampier, Isaac Baugh.

1752 John Clement.

Daniel Woodward, Edward Whatley.

A riot by the colliers from Kingwood, on account of the scarcity of corn, kept up for a whole week. The citizens were sworn as constables, and armed in defence of the city. The colliers resisted; many were wounded, some shot and killed, before the riot was quelled, and three were indicted and tried, some suffered by fine and long imprisonment.

1753 Abraham Elton.

Henry Bright, Thomas Harris.

The intended bill to naturalize Jews was strongly opposed in this city by addresses sent to the members of parliament, from the citizens at large and from the Merchants'-hall.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1754 Morgan Smith.

Thomas Knox, Thomas Dean.

This year the new stone bridge was built and finished at the head of the Key, which cost the chamber upwards of 2500l.

The bill was also passed for regulating a nightly watch in this city.

1755 Henry Dampier.

Henry Weare, James Hillhouse.

The Draw-bridge was rebuilt on a new plan, and much more commodious than the former. It cost the chamber 1066l. 6s. See p. 88.

1756 Giles Bayly.

Nathaniel Foy, Austin Goodwin.

1757 William Martin.

Robert Gordon, Isaac Piguénit.

Fifty-one privateers fitted out at Bristol to cruize against the French to the public good in taking the stores going to the French in America, but many private persons who hoped to make their fortunes by these adventures were great losers.

1758 Henry Muggleworth.

John Berrow, Samuel Webb.

Friday, November 3, was taken without resistance by the Antelope, of 50 guns, a 64 gun French man of war, called the *Belliqueux*, 415 men, blown up our channel near Lundy, and could not get back.

1759 Jeremy Ames.

Charles Hotchkin, John Noble.

1760 John Durbin.

Isaac Piguénit, Samuel Sedgely.

In January the corporation resolved to present the freedom of this city to the Honourable William Pitt and the Duke of Newcastle in two gold boxes. — The act for taking down the old bridge passed.

1761 Isaac Elton.

Joseph Daltera, William Barnes.

In September, 1761, the day of the Royal nuptials was celebrated in this city with great solemnity and eclat, and on December 27 the Duke of York honoured this city with his presence, by invitation of the mayor and aldermen.

A temporary bridge built above the old one, which was begun to be taken down. See p. 96.

1762 John Noble.

George Were, Thomas Farr.

In October a great flood, so that the low lands were all seven feet under water.

1763 Richard Farr.

Andrew Pope, John Durbin.

1764 Henry Swymmer.

James Laroche, John Bull.

On the 27th of September, 1764, Mrs. Ruscomb and Mary Sweet her servant murdered at her house in College-green, at eleven o'clock in the morning. The wicked author has never been discovered.

This year the great New Dock was begun by Mr. Champion.

A. D. MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1765 Isaac Baugh.

Isaac Elton, junr. Michael Miller, junr.

The stone bridge was built at Bridewell, which had hitherto been of wood, now decayed.

The new Theatre built in King-street and opened with the play of the Conscious Lovers with the Miller of Mansfield, for the benefit of the Infirmary.

An act passed to take down all the sign-posts and spouts, and to carry the water down the sides of the houses into gouts.

Rioting here about the scarcity of corn, which occasioned an order of Council to stop all vessels laden with corn till the parliament sat.

1766 William Barnes.

William Miles, Henry Cruger.

Castle-gate taken down, and removed by Mr. William Reeve, merchant, to his seat at Brisslington.

Key-lane was widened by taking down the houses on one side.

1767 George Weare.

Edward Brice, Alexander Edgar.

A new commodious dock made at the Grove, and the Key wall continued round to the market-house on the Back.

Brunswick-square in St. James's laid out for building.

1768 Edward Whalley.

John Crofts, Henry Lippincott.

September 17, Bristol bridge was finished by the contractors.

December 15, William Hillhouse chosen sword-bearer, in the room John Wraxal, deceased.

The Bridge rebuilt was now open for passengers. See p. 96.

1769 Thomas Harris.

John Merlott, George Daubeney.

The time of holding the two yearly Bristol fairs was changed from the 25th of January to the 1st of March, and from the 25th of July to the 1st of September.

1770 Thomas Deane.

Henry Lippincott, Isaac Elton, junr.

St. Leonard's church and Blind-gate were taken down and the old buildings behind it, by which St. Stephen's church was more opened to view.

1771 Henry Bright.

Levi Ames, Jeremy Baker.

The new road opened from Corn-street to the Quay, and Clare-street began to be built.

A stage coach for passengers betwixt Bristol and the Hotwells, at a fix-penny fare, began to run regularly; five or six more were soon added, for the convenience of the inhabitants of Bristol and the Hotwells.

A. D. MAYORS.

1772 Nathaniel Foy.

1773 Robert Gordon.

1774 Charles Hodgekin.

1775 Thomas Farr.

1776 Andrew Pope.

SHERIFFS.

John Noble, John Anderson.

Andrew Pope, Thomas Pierce.

John Durbin, James Hill.

Edward Brice, John Noble.

John Farr, John Harris.

An act passed for the regulation of lighters, &c. and other purposes.

1777 Sir John Durbin, Knight. John Fisher Weare, Philip Prothero.

The American Colonies proclaimed themselves independent of England. And several attempts to fire the city, the shipping at the Key, &c. in his enthusiasm for the Americans, were made by John Aitkin, the painter; a warehouse was burnt down in Bell-lane. The citizens were so alarmed, that gentlemen kept nightly watches; but Divine Justice overtook the villain, and he was hanged at Portsmouth.

1778 Sir John Durbin, Knight. Benjamin Loscombe, James Morgan.

1779 Michael Miller, junr. Edward Brice, Joseph Harford.

— John Bull, (in the room of M. Miller, junr. who died in his mayoralty.)

1780 William Miles. Samuel Span, Joseph Smith.

1781 Henry Cruger. Robert Coleman, John Collard.

1782 Edward Brice. Rowland Williams, William Blake.

Next to All Saints church the house rebuilt at the south end, and the Tolzey made there 1615 taken down. The Quay conduit erected anew 1703 taken down and removed, and the Fish Market there in future appointed to be held in St. James's New Market in Union-street.

1783 John Anderson. John Garnet, Andrew Henderson.

1784 John Farr. John Fisher Weare, James Harvey.

The foundation of the new Infirmary erected on a large plan was laid June 2. A mansion-house for the mayor's residence fitted up in Queen-square, and a new banqueting-room in Charlotte-street adjoining opened the 5th of April following for company.

1785 John Crofts. Joseph Harford, Sir Stephen Nash, Knt.

A Marine Society established here for educating poor boys for the sea service.

1786 George Daubeney. Evan Baillie, Thomas Daniël.

A stand of three hackney coaches first set up at the Exchange for the use of the citizens, soon increased to twenty.

November 4, the foundation stone for rebuilding Christ Church was laid.

The

The library in King-street was enlarged with an additional wing built by the Library Society, so that it now holds conveniently a very large collection of books ancient and modern, of the best editions, and in all sciences. The Rev. Mr. Alexander Catcott left by will a great many books to it, and a cabinet of very curious, valuable, and scarce fossils, shells, ores, &c. for the use of the public. See p. 508.

A. D.

MAYORS.

SHERIFFS.

1787

Alexander Edgar.

John Morgan, Robert Claxton.

The three Bristol police or regulation bills were passed in parliament this year:

1788

Levi Ames.

James Hill, John Harris.

In this mayoralty, March 5, 1789, a general joy was diffused through the city on account of the King's happy recovery, and being able to resume the reins of government. Bell ringing, firing cannons all day from Brandon-hill, a general brilliant illumination at night, with transparent emblematical devices, and every demonstration of joy that could be displayed, proved the true affection and loyalty of our citizens for their amiable and august Sovereign, who thus reigns in the hearts of his subjects.

[The Annals may be continued as events occur, and the History thus proceed.]

